Not fade away:

ACT UP/Golden Gate writers describe treatments for wasting syndrome.

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McCarthy rules!

Victory Fund honors Superior Court Judge-elect page 19



From Russia with love Author David Tuller finds gay life in Moscow. see Arts section



Vol. 26 • No. 23 • 6 June 1996

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 25 years

US at 15 Light a candle, curse the darkness

by Mike Salinas

ifteen June 5ths ago, in a nearly-forgotten time called 1981, the Centers for ifteen June 5ths ago, in a nearly-forgotten time called 1981, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta published an article in an obscure weekly bulletin about five Los Angeles gay men who had died of a mysterious pneumonia. Few, if any, suspected how much more serious that mystery illness would become, or that dozens, then hundreds, and then tens of thousands of gay men would fall prey to the "gay pneumonia" and its equally deadly counterpart, the "gay cancer."

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Good and bad news on the Sacramento AIDS front

by Dennis Conkin

ACT UP

Bazaar

BAR Talk

Classifieds

Mailstrom

Obituaries

Out There

Personals

Queer Watch

Sapphistication

Open Forum

Our Man Friday Out & About

Out For Business

he state Assembly last week rejected a ne state Assembly last week rejected a Republican-sponsored AIDS measure that would have defined AIDS as a communicable disease and required physicians to report the names of their patients with HIV/AIDS to the state.

The measure was just one of four AIDS-

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INSIDE

related measures considered by the Assembly.

In another controversial Assembly measure that was passed and sent to the state senate last week, high school students have been excluded from parental consent re-quirements to receive AIDS education. On Friday May 31, the state Assembly

also passed to the state Senate a measure that makes it a felony for people with HIV or AIDS to fail to disclose their sero-status to sexual partners or to have unprotected

sex with partners.
Assembly Bill 2147, authored by Walnut
Creek Republican Richard Rainey, also creates a five-year state prison sentence penal-ty enhancement if HIV is transmitted to an uninfected sex partner during a sexual en-

The proposed law "goes far beyond any

reasonable legal protections," according to Laura Thomas, a public policy advocate for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

"The Rainey bill is just ludicrous. It will turn people away from being tested for HIV," Thomas told the *Bay Area Reporter*. The measure passed the Assembly two days before a Contra Costra County judge.

dismissed charges against a 25-year-old

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DoMA moving in Washington House subcommittee clears anti-gay bill

by Bob Roehr

the Defense of Marriage Act (DoMA) passed its first legislative hurdle Thursday, May 30 on an 8-4 party line vote out of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution. It faces likely quick action in the full committee and on the floor of the House before moving on to the Senate

The anti-gay act would prohibit same-sex marriages for federal purposes and not require states to recognize those marriages performed in other states.

Ralph Reed, head of the Christian Coaliand his group would push for passage of DoMA by Labor Day. "We have a president who says he'll sign it, let's get it to him as quickly as possible." Reed called it "a test of his [Clinton's] leadership."

Daniel Zingale, political director of the Human Pichts Campaing (HPC), offered a

Human Rights Campaign (HRC), offered a gloomy assessment. "Our intelligence gath-ering on the Hill shows they have not only enough votes to pass the bill, but to make it

He believes the bill is "patently unconstitutional. The problem is, when you have Bob Dole and Bill Clinton both asserting

that it is constitutionally sound, that is a difficult case to make in the Senate."

The best hope to stop DoMA lays in pro-cedural delays such as a filibuster. Zingale says, "It is very important that the senators, the ones we assume are our friends, need to hear from their constituents that we care deeply about this and we expect them to go to extraordinary means to prevent this from being decided in this election climate."

The strategy is not to push for defeat of the measure, but to delay it so there can be "a thoughtful debate after the election, when the constitutional question and other issues

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TWO SECTIONS



IT'S IN THE **GENES**

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Community Dental Update ▼



Richard A. Barrera

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SFPD chief denies sound permits to SOS fundies

by Jaime Cader

ontroversial streetcorner preachers have been denied preachers have been denied permits to use their portable public address system in San Francisco, and must pursue further legal action by this Friday,

June 7 or else drop the matter.
San Francisco Chief of Police
Fred Lau decided Wednesday, May Fred Lau decided Wednesday, May 23 against giving loudspeaker permits to the anti-gay SOS Ministries coalition. Lau made his decision after reviewing the recommendations of Captain David Maron, who presided over a public hearing on the subject last month.

The averts leading up to the

The events leading up to the public hearing produced the largest show of neighborhood organizational opposition to the SOS in over a decade. For example, a written resolution was passed by the Eureka Valley Pro-motion Association asking SFPD not to grant any more permits to the SOS. EVPA president Rachel Heyman said that at issue was not just the loud noise, but "the intimidating, confrontational man-



Larry Rosenbaum

ner that incites and provokes, rather than conveying a religious

The SOS is headed by Larry Rosenbaum, an "ex-gay" who

holds a Master's in psychology from Yale and Brandeis universi-ties. He became involved in the california drug scene in the late sixties, he now says, but abandoned that lifestyle when he became a fundamentalist Christian. In 1984 he was nominated as Northern California regional di-rector of the International Street

rector of the International Street
Ministry Association.
The following year Rosenbaum wrote in an SOS pamphlet,
"San Francisco is one of the most
strategic cities in the world to
reach with the Gospel. The devil
knows this. Over the past two
decades, many of the Satanic
movements that have transformed our society have had their
origin in San Francisco such as formed our society have had their origin in San Francisco, such as the hippie and drug movements, the 'free love' and the gay movements, the trend towards Eastern religions, occultism, and Satan worship, and many cults such as the People's Temple."

A letter Rosenbaum presented at the May 8 hearing indicates he is now receiving legal advice from the Reverend Pat Robertson's Center for Law and Justice.

Appezzato to Alamedans: Appreciate gays, lesbians

by Cynthia Laird

lameda Mayor Appezzato issued a proclamation Tuesday, June 4 recognizing the contributions of the

ognizing the contributions of the city's gay and lesbian community and asking all citizens to join him in appreciation of their efforts.

Members of Out on the Island, Alameda's gay and lesbian political group, applauded as Appezzato finished reading the proclamation, and then thanked him for it.

"Pallite to command Mouse

"I'd like to commend Mayor Appezzato, but more importantly, I'd like to thank the people of Alameda," said OOTI executive board member Christine Allen.

board member Christine Allen.
"This is just the beginning."
Appezzato's proclamation
capped a year of dialogue between
members of the island city's gay
and lesbian community and the
mayor. Last June, the city council
denied a proclamation recognizing gay pride month. At that time the mayor opposed the issue. He has apparently changed his mind, however, after attending some events held by OOTI and many discussions with Allen and others.

At the council's next meeting on June 18, Council member Karin Lucas is expected to ask that the entire council endorse a similar proclamation, but it is uncer-tain whether that will happen after the council's 3-2 decision last month to change the way city proclamations are issued. Appezzato's opponents on the council were silent during the presenta-

tion.

Tuesday night was a happy one for Alameda's gay and lesbian community, who made up a large part of the approximately 100 people at the meeting. Some OOTI members said Appezzato appeared moved as he read the seatures proclamation which

appeared involved as he tead the ten-sentence proclamation, which he then presented to Allen.

The proclamation outlines the many things Alameda's gay and lesbian community has done, including actively serving on boards and commissions and other civic

The citizens of Alameda should be aware of and recognize the contributions of members of the gay and lesbian community to the City of Alameda," the procla-

mation states.
City resident and PFLAG member Howard Simon praised the mayor's issuance of the proclamation.

Simon, who has lost one gay son to AIDS and has another gay son who is a Christian pastor in Palm Springs, said, "The procla-mation will honor not only my family, but all families who have gay sons or daughters, or family or friends."

There was slight opposition to the proclamation. One woman, Shirley Cummins, said, "All citi-zens of Alameda do not recognize zens of Alameda do not recognize these groups. They are not community, they bring in outsiders from San Francisco. They have bamboozled you, I think."

All of the people who spoke and thanked the mayor for the proclamation identified themselves as residents of Alameda. ▼

East Bay demo club to host same-sex marriage forum June 18

he East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club (EBL/GDC) will be hosting a forum on same-sex mar-

he East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club (EBL/GDC) will be hosting a forum on same-sex marriage Tuesday, June 18 in Oakland.

Tara Kelly, club president, said the meeting is designed to give information on how the fight for gender-neutral marriage laws will affect people in the gay community, how the issue will affect upcoming elections, and what actions people can take in support of the issue.

Kate Kendell from the National Center for Lesbian Rights and Jim Prevo of the Freedom to Marry Task Force will be on the panel. There will be an open discussion following their presentation.

Kelly told the B.A.R. that anyone is welcome to attend both the forum and a general club meeting that will precede it.

—Cynthia Laird

The same-sex marriage forum will be held Tuesday, June 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Mocha Lisa, located at 3200 College Avenue (at Alcatraz) in Oakland. The EBL/GDC meeting will start at 7 p.m.

'Manifestly gay' former worker sues Sacramento hospital

by Dennis Conkin

penly gay respiratory therapist Stephan Pardi has appealed a Superior Court decision to the 3rd District State Court of Appeals in Sacramento, in his two-year-old job bias law-

Pardi sued Sacramento's Sutter Roseville Hospital in 1994, charging he had been the victim of gay-related job bias four years earlier when the hospital con-tacted temporary agencies he worked for and demanded Pardi no longer be assigned to the fa-

Pardi also claimed that the facility's later refusal to grant him an interview for a full-time position was also biased.

In March, after granting a motion for summary judgment by Roseville Hospital, a Superior Court judge also denied Pardi's

motion for reconsideration, which led to the appeal. "It's important to point out that my case was not dismissed on the merits, but rather on a technicality," Pardi said.

technicality," Pardi said.

A hospital spokesperson told the Bay Area Reporter the Superior Court ruled that there was "no evidence" the hospital discriminated against Pardi – and although the hospital was not aware that Pardi had filed the appeal, that was "his prerogative."

Pardi worked as a temporary employee at the Sacramento-area hospital from December 1989 through June 1990, when he walked into an assigned morning shift and was told by a supervisor that he was being sent home – and would never be al-lowed to work at Roseville Hos-

pital again
"When I inquired why, she shrugged and said she didn't know. I stressed to her that nothing untoward had occurred on any of my shifts," Pardi told the

Pardi had never been reprimanded for any reason at the hospital, and never had his clini-cal skills or judgment questioned – but he had appeared on a re-gional broadcast of an AIDS information program a few days

earlier.

"Just three days after a Sunday afternoon regional broadcast of AIDS In Our World, in which I was the sole guest expert during the one-hour long program and discussed then-current, highly controversial, 'hot button' topics – such as kids and AIDS, clean

handling of a medical crisis.

In that incident Pardi had questioned medical orders issued by a physician who had ordered by a physician who had ordered only palliative care for a patient in a life-threatening crisis. The orders were changed and the pa-tient's life was saved, but the su-pervisor's memo about the flap caused a hospital official to de-cline to interview Pardi for a full-time position later.

The supervisor admitted under oath in the case that she was upset with Pardi because he told her that her failure to respond appropriately to the crisis had caused the patient needless cuffering.

"It's important to point out that my case was not dismissed on the merits, but rather on a technicality." -Stephan Pardi

needle exchange, AIDS prevention in schools, teens and sex, mandatory patient HIV testing, etc. – I was abruptly terminated," Pardi said.

Pardi, who also wrote a syndicated weekly AIDS-related healthcare column, says the hospital terminated his employment because he is "manifestly gay" and was an AIDS activist.

Neither healthcare registry that assigned Pardi to his jobs had ever received complaints or into ever received complaints or justification for the personnel ac-tion by the hospital, and accord-ing to depositions in the case, his main Roseville supervisor found Pardi to be an excellent clinician.

Pardi pointed out in his law-suit that the hospital never ade-quately justified the "do not send order" except to say he once con-fronted a supervisor about her

Also, a Christian fundamentalist supervisor admitted in a deposition that she could not document any incident that justified the order, but said the "do not send" decision was made for other reasons.

"Well, I'll just say [Pardi's] communication skills," said Beverley Tang in a deposition.

Discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or private poseural states. Also, a Christian fundamen-

sexual orientation or private po-litical activity is illegal under California law.

Pardi said that he was not sure would return to the healthcare field as a clinician, but told the *B.A.R.* he planned to obtain a graduate degree in public health and become a public health policy maker in either the public or

private sectors.

Roseville Hospital had no comment on Pardi's appeal. ▼

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Felony charges dropped against **Castro Patrol Special officer**

by Dennis Conkin

an Francisco Municipal Court Judge Phillip
Moscone dismissed criminal charges against former Castro beat Patrol Special Officer Al Stancombe on Wednesday, May 29. Stancombe had been charged with felony assault and battery under the color of authority in connection with an October 1994 arrest of an alleged pickpocket in front of the Pendulum Bar on

18th Street.
Stancombe was charged with the felonies after eyewitnesses said he severely beat robbery sus-pect Artis Scott following a chase. The incident was initially investigated by San Francisco police management control division, which handles misconduct charges against patrol specials.

Reporter that he believed he was prosecuted on the charges by police brass because of his strong public role as an advocate for the San Francisco Patrol Special As-

"It was politics. They knew they didn't have a case all along,"

he said.

The Patrol Special officers are regulated by the Police Commission and, although employed by private merchants, have arrest and other law enforcement pow-

The group was at loggerheads with the San Francisco Police
Officers Association and police
brass last year, over the extent of
their police powers and changes
in the City Charter affecting
their mandated law enforcement

role.

The case was handled by the

California State Attorney General's office, which failed to respond to Bay Area Reporter requests for comment. District Attorney Terence Hallinan recused his office from prosecuting the case, be-cause Stancombe served as Halli-nan's personal driver during his successful election bid for the

post last year.
Stancombe told the Bay Area Reporter he was seeking legal advice about the possibility of suing the city over false arrest and false imprisonment in the

incident.

"They charged me with acting under the color of authority. Yes, it looks pretty nasty when you are in a fight. But people were in a half-moon around me and nobody would help me," he said.

"Who's the victim, here? My life has been hell, and I certainly don't feel vindicated."



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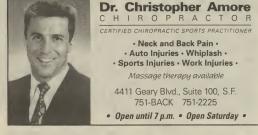
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Alternative Family Project told to leave SF Catholic church

by Cynthia Laird

fter three years of being housed at St. Paul's Catholic Church in San Francisco, the Alternative Family Project (AFP) has had to move, apparent-ly because too many gay and les-bian families utilized its services.

The group has, however, found a new – and better – location.

AFP is a nonprofit family support agency for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered families. It provides clinical family therapy services and hosts free monthly family forum meetings. Cheryl Deaner, project coordinator of AFP, said it serves about 100 fam-

AFF, said it serves about 100 families per month.

The program helps to increase the self-esteem and coping abilities of individual members and the family as a whole. It is staffed by psychology, social work, and Marriage, Family, and Child Counseling (MFCC) interns. All staff are supervised by licensed counselors, psychologists, and social workers.

Deaner told the B.A.R. that AFP contracted for the program site at St. Paul's Church through San Francisco State University, and that she had received word and that she had received word – but nothing written – that USF would not renew its contract, which ends June 30. She said St. Paul's Father Mario Farana had wanted to evict the program since he learned it was at his church last November. "The USF clinic was a very

supportive intermediary between us and the Catholic Church and kept us there," she said, "despite the church's objections to the pro-

However, Farana disputed Deaner's version of events.

"They had an agreement with the University of San Francisco.

It's USF's issue. We did not force them out," he told the B.A.R.
Deaner disagreed, saying, "He told USF's counseling clinic that they would have to get rid of the program by June 30. It's kind of a sad thing, and he doesn't have a good reason." good reason."

Deaner said because the num-ber of gays and lesbians attending the family forums at St. Paul's apparently upset church officials, AFP moved the meetings to the Unitarian Center to be accommo-

"We didn't want to be insensi-tive to Catholics," she said. "They expected different kinds of alter-native families." She said those in-cluded people from divorced fam-ilies or adoption, which AFP

A statement issued by USF's A statement issued by USF's public affairs office said AFP was asked to leave St. Paul's Church because it had "considerably narrowed the activities ... and restricted counseling services to far fewer groups than were originally written into the charter."

The decision was made by the

The decision was made by the board of directors of USF's Cen-ter for Child and Family Develop-

ter for Child and Family Develop-ment, the statement said.
"Originally, groups to receive counseling included children and adults living in single parent homes, foster home guardians and children, unwed mothers liv-ing with the children, homeless families and individuals, and gays and lesbians." USF's statement and lesbians," USF's statement

The statement continued, "As a result of the restriction in services with certain public activities held, the board asked Ms. Deaner to find a new facility for the project at the end of the spring semester.

'There were no outside influences exerted on the board to make the change, despite allegations by Ms. Deaner to the con-

The silver lining

According to Deaner, being forced out of St. Paul's was a positive thing, leading to AFP's new site at 425 Divisadero Street (at

Oak).
"It's actually ended up being a good thing for us," she said. The new location is 1,100 square feet, larger than the space occupied at St. Paul's, and AFP can host the monthly family forums there.

But even though things worked out for the best, Deaner still sees the larger issue as one of discrimination. Dean Goodwin, Mayor Willie Brown's gay/lesbian

liaison, agreed.

"Of course the mayor's very, very concerned that this agency was the target of expulsion, Goodwin told the B.A.R.

Kate Kendell, legal director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR), told the B.A.R. that although she's distressed by the action, nothing can be done

"I think it's reprehensible,"
Kendell said. "Unfortunately, it's
not illegal."
Kendell pointed out that Cali-

fornia's Unruh Act, which pro-hibits discrimination in public places based on many things, including sexual orientation, con-tains an exception for religious institutions.

"Based on concerns about the family, Alternative Family Project should certainly be allowed to have a home [there]. But the law allows religious organizations to quite freely discriminate," Kendell said. ▼

The phone number for the Alternative Family Project is (415) 566-5683.

Puccinelli resigns from GodFathers, begins repayment

by Dennis Conkin

he embattled former co-chair of the GodFather Service Fund last week repaid \$10,000 in funds allegedly misap-propriated from the AIDS service organization, but the Bay Area Reporter has learned the charity has discovered an additional \$7,000 in

discovered an additional \$7,000 in misappropriated funds.
The \$10,000 was repaid Thursday, May 30 by lesbian businesswoman and one-time board member of the AIDS charity Chris Puccinelli, according to cochair Tom Vindeed.

chair Tom Vindeed.

But Vindeed also confirmed reports that the charity discovered an additional \$7,000 was allegedly misappropriated through an unauthorized Wells Fargo bank account that Puccinelli allegedly set up to deposit and cash the checks without the awareness of the agency's board or treasurer.

The account, opened by Puccinelli in a corporate name simi-lar to GodFather Service Fund, has been seized by authorities, and a police investigation into the alleged misappropriation contin-ues, Vindeed said. The newly discovered checks in-

clude profit rebate checks made to the charity by the non-profit Com-munity Thrift Store for an estimated \$3,800; a \$3,000 check from the Levi Strauss Foundation; a personal check from San Francisco Giants owner Bob Lurie for \$250; and a check for \$500 from the Jewish Community Federation.

The alleged misappropriation
– and the secret bank account –
came to light in May when a concerned attorney for the estate of a
man who died of AIDS contacted the charity.

The estate's 1994 \$10,000 bequest had been cashed, but the charity had never acknowledged

Puccinelli was suspended from the agency and resigned on May 20, but GSF co-chair attorney Julian Lastowski told the B.A.R. that her resignation was unrelated to the discovery of the additional

GSF officials say that Puccinelli never had access to the agency's official checking accounts, and that locks on the group's postal box have been changed and other precautions taken to prevent fu-

The charity provides personal cafe items such as bathrobes, toiletries, holiday gifts, and other items to people with AIDS in San

Francisco hospitals and hospices. Puccinelli claimed to hold re-Puccinelli claimed to hold re-ceipts for expenditures from the \$10,000 bequest, including the purchase of 100 bathrobes from Nordstrom for hospitalized AIDS clients, and similar purchases from a now-defunct New York-based concern.

Castro PWA busted with joint, faces resisting arrest charges

by Dennis Conkin

hen "Hurricane" Frank Rouse arrived at the Bay Area Reporter for an in-terview recently, he was neatly and appropriately dressed – immediappropriately utessed - limitediately showing how much thought and care he had taken with his appearance that day. Homeless and living with HIV disease, Rouse had gone to the trouble to line up clean clothes, take a shower, and arrive research to reine. That arrive reasonably on time. That was no easy feat for someone who survives financially on federal Supplemental Security Income and is on a waiting list for subsidized housing for people with AIDS, who spends some nights sleeping out by the beach or couch surfing with friends - or even, when need be, with a trick. With his shaved head, signa-ture tight black Spanday biggels

ture tight black Spandex bicycle shorts, and a T-shirt, Rouse has been a fixture in the Castro over the years. Once a familiar presence at ACT UP and Queer Nation protests as well, he received a Bruno County Jail (plus three years' probation) related to the October 6, 1989 Castro Street police/activist confrontation.

lice/activist confrontation.

Now Rouse faces new charges stemming from an incident at 18th and Castro – because he kicked out the window of a police car as he was being arrested for smoking marijuana, and an officer was cut in the spray of flying glass.

But, he says, the new charges lodged against him are unfair and unjust, and when he talks about

unjust, and when he talks about them, his eyes fill with hurt, his lower lip quivers, and he struggles

'My medicine'

By his own admission, Rouse was sitting and smoking pot by the Bank of America on April 26 when a police squad car pulled up.
"I smoke pot on the street. I don't like to be bothered by other drug addicts or speed freaks," he told the Bay Area Reporter. "I was trying to take my medicine I have trying to take my medicine. I have this weird diarrhea, and appetite problems; I don't eat much and it helps me have an appetite to eat."

Rouse showed the B.A.R. a physician's statement to the Cannabis Burar's Club krittera

Cannabis Buyer's Club written on a prescription form, which confirms his serostatus.

"These two officers came to-wards me," Rouse said, "and one wards me, 'Rouse said, 'and one of them said I was a big embarrassment to them and I had to leave the Castro, that I was making the community look bad.' Apparently Rouse didn't move fast enough for the officers, and he claims the police were "slamming my head into the ground" before he knew it

before he knew it.

"The male officer said he did-n't think I was getting up fast enough and slammed my head against the ground," Rouse charged, "It was just a few seconds before I had a bunch of officers on me, and my legs were shackled with those plastic cuffs, and I had regular cuffs around my hands, and they had me on my stomach

and they had me on my stomach and were dragging me to the squad car."

Rouse said he was tossed in the squad car on his back, with his hand bent underneath him. As he struggled to free his hand, the squad door was slammed shut.

"My feet were in the way of the window and I was trying to get



PLWA "Hurricane" Frank Rouse.

my weight off my wrist, and my feet slammed into the glass and the officer got cut up," he said. "Things happened so fast." Rouse claims he spent 11 hours hog-tied in a cell at the Hall

of Justice, until he was released by law enforcement authorities. Also, law enforcement authorities. Also, he told the B.A.R., police seized and searched his backpack containing a sleeping bag, clothing, and other personal items. Now, he said, he's having trouble getting the required photo identification to get the property back from the police custody, even though a Municipal Court judge has ordered police to return it. His pot pipe was contraband and was not returned.

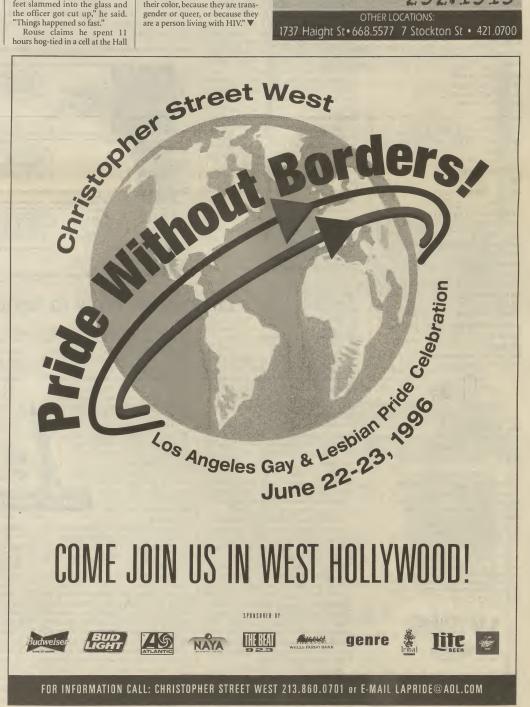
Rouse returns to court on June 11 for a hearing on charges of possession and resisting arrest. He has obtained the services of a public defender, because he can't

afford a private attorney.

"I really believe I have a case,"
Rouse said. "I just don't want this
to happen to anybody else – that
people are mistreated because of their color, because they are trans-gender or queer, or because they are a person living with HIV."







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Presumptuous candidates

lections are on a lot of people's minds now, especially with the recent Israeli wote being so evenly divided. It was inwote being so evenly divided. It was instructive to see how that entire nation's future hinged on just 15,000 people; had they gone for Peres instead of Netanyahu, they would have changed the outcome. It shows the value of every individual vote, and teaches a valuable lesson.

If only it were easier to figure out what they have in if only the choices for American

that lesson is; if only the choices for American gays were as obviously clear-cut as they were for Israeli voters.

American voters are so tired by now that we'd rather watch international election returns than pay attention to our own. As an example, only the most rabid political junkies even noticed that Alabama, New

Mexico, Montana, and New Jersey held their primaries this Tuesday. Guess what: Clinton and Dole won. Rah rah.

Since both of the above are what anchorpersons call "presumptive" candidates – although it would seem "presumptuous" is a more accurate word – they could afford to learn this week's misuries so low key. It is a more accurate word – they could allord to keep this week's primaries so low-key. It wasn't like the old days (meaning a few months ago) when, for Republican candidates at least, the battle was real enough that they were willing to trek all over Iowa and they were willing to trek all over lowa and New Hampshire pretending to care about Iowans and New Hampshirans as long as there was a reporter around. We did enjoy the nightly newscasts full of those politicians' images, gravely nodding to corn farmers, or overenthusiastically digging into plates of pancakes, and doing all that stuff that is supposed to make them look human and swarthyman all et the corner is the control of and superhuman all at the same time. We liked it because the candidates are laughably

liked it because the candidates are laughably bad at what they're trying to do, and because as long as they're out standing in some farmer's field they aren't trying to be outstanding back in Washington. Where, as we know, they are not to be trusted.

Now that the next presidential race has been winnowed down to two – or two-point-five, if you combine Perot and Ralph Nader – the candidates choose their battles more carefully and avoid cowpie fields in favor of \$1,000-a-plate fundraising dinners favor of \$1,000-a-plate fundraising dinners whenever possible. This has insulated them far too much from the electorate, in our opinion, and prevented Dole and Clinton from being exposed like Lamarr Alexander as being utterly out of touch with the rest

fornia is about to be deluged with visits from Bob and Bill's All-Star Traveling Circus Minimus. Dole and Clinton both want cus Minimus. Dole and Clinton both want the state's electoral votes this November, and will be stumping hard for them in the immediate future, in the guise of run-ning for long-since-decided primary races. Already it is going badly for the GOP: Newt Gingrich is trying to defend a leaked Republican plan to bribe our voters (al-though surely another word was used) by promising to boost Washington's outlays to Sacramento – if course, we earn it by voting for the GOP. That's rotten and hypocritical, and typical. It is **Editorial** also an implied threat for what will happen if they have to

come to power without our support.
Fortunately, if Dole and Clinton do
make as many appearances here as we suspect, it will give the gay and lesbian community a chance to confront them. Since both have displayed an anachronistic lack of areness about who we are, it is up to us to show them.

Remember: they're coming here for vis-ility. We can show them what the word really means. Get ready.

This week we observe an unhappy birthday: the 15th anniversary of AIDS. As we were putting that story together we dis-covered that almost nobody (from the covered that almost nobody (from the White House, on up and down) even knew the occasion was coming up – except the UCSF Center for AIDS Prevention Services, God love 'em – and people seemed as likely to say "Only 15 years?" as "Has it been that long?"
Yes, to both questions.

It is amazing to us that we have spent more than half of the post-Stonewall gay movement fighting a virus. We long for the days when things were simpler, and have

almost given up hope for their return anytime soon, but like everyone else in the community we're too busy to spend very much time in those misty rec-

ollections

What we do have time for right now is to honor the friends who have been taken from us in those 15 years – we miss you – and to honor all our friends who have donated their time and money and energy to help end this epidemic even one day soon-

er – we love you.

This is an amazing community, and we are prouder every day to be a part of it. ▼



Ma

35

Frameline's unexpected blow to lesbian visibility

by Kathleen Wilkinson

f recent actions are any indication of where Frameline is headed, the agency should consider changing the name of the San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. The once trend-setting promoter of lesbian visibility in media arts is sadly flagging in this arena.

Is sauly lagging in this arena.
Frameline recently issued a blatantly sexist press release on its own history. The shocking three-page document neglected to name even one lesbian of the many prominent filmmakers, or any of the women who have been on staff. Nor did it list the three lesbians who have won the Frameline Award, although it named five past male recipients and five other men for their contri-butions to Frameline and to gay film.

While Frameline later responded to criticism by adding the names of 12 lesbians to its history, it still didn't offer an adequate tribute to the women who have worked long and hard to build Frameline. From the first Executive Director Linda Farin to Denrst executive Director Linda Farin to De-velopment Director Amy Schoenborn, women have played a key role in its devel-opment. Following Annette Forster, the first female guest curator, Jenni Olson joined Frameline in 1992 and brought an unparal-leled knowledge of lesbian and queer film. During her tenure, festival resources - press releases, press screenings, hospitality for guest filmmakers – were evenly divided be-

guest immakets – were eventy divided be-tween gay and lesbian artists. In 1991, Nancy Fishman took over Frameline's distribution program, and Desi del Valle, the current distribution manager,

was hired the following year. Among their accomplishments on behalf of queer cinema is the acquisition of a diverse collection of works by gays and lesbians, including many by people of color. Former Executive Director Tess Martin

brought Frameline through its 19th year, struggling to surmount an enormous financial crisis and to continue after Mark Finch's tragic suicide. Jennifer Hamilton, Liz Rigali, Kim Scala, and Mary Wings are among the former board members who advocated for lesbian representation at the festival and at Frameline. "I find it absolutely incredible

that you could manage to omit us all," Olson wrote to Festival Director Michael Lumpkin. "The **Guest Opinion**

impression ... is that Frameline believes that lesbians are an in impression Frameline believes that lesbians are an insignificant part of queer film history. ... If Frameline is truly a gay and lesbian organization I can't believe you would be perpetuating this kind of sexism."

Nor is the "oversight" limited to one document. Gender imbalance is strongly re-

flected in other press releases and program-ming. In this year's festival release, only two women's films were highlighted, compared to six by men. Lesbian film has earned its place alongside gay cinema, and the festival itself was instrumental in developing that interest in and market for lesbian work. It sets the standard, and it is crucial that it grant the prominence and respect to lesbian artists that they deserve.

In this festival there are only 31 women's

program slots (including repeats) compared to 45 men's (plus 13 co-gender and seven transgender). With Olson and Mark Finch there was never a disparity of more than two slots; e.g., in 1994 there were 38 women's and 40 men's slots. Commenting on the disparity, Lumpkin said, "To be honest, I haven't made a film-by-film count.... The way [Co-Director] Jennifer [Morris] and Lynch wes don't myt ourselves into and I work, we don't put ourselves into these are your slots; we have more of a style of working

together. ogether."
Another particularly striking omission occurred in the May 29 Examiner story on the festival, which included a 7-by-

10-inch photo of Lumpkin alone. Is that Frame-line's "style of working to-gether" – leaving Jennifer

Morris completely out of the picture?

Also missing from the original press re

lease was acknowledgment of former Festival Assistant Boone Nguyen, the only person of color on festival staff, who, together ith Morris, deserves credit for last year's

success.

Frameline's history concludes, "Lumpkin has returned ... ready to lead Frameline and the festival into its third decade." This first sally into the '90s under Lumpkin's leadership has brought lesbian visibility back ten years. As a nonprofit organization dedicated to the community, Frameline should promote accurate and diverse representations of our communities in its festival, in its programs, and, most of all, in its own history.

LETTERS

Pivotal gays

Clinton has sold our community out! He let us down on the gays in the military issue and he is against us on the gay marriage issue. So how can he

expect the community to support him in the election?
The California gay community now has a pivotal role in the next election. Clinton cannot win enough electoral votes to win the Presidency without winning California. The gay vote in the last election gave Clinton the margin of victory in California. We may very well be the deciding factor in the upcoming election. So should we punish him and withhold our votes

and show the power of our community? Can we live

and show the power of our community? Can we live with the outcome of that strategy? There are several reasons why we must support Clinton and turn out our vote to give him California's 54 electoral votes. Number one, we just had our first-ever Supreme Court victory. Those Clinton appointees to the Supreme Court were the critical difference that swung the Court in our favor. We cannot afford to have any more Republican appointees to the Supreme Court.

Secondly the Republicans would make year seal.

More Republican appointees to the Supreme Court.

Secondly, the Republicans would make very real changes to the benefits that our brothers and sisters with AIDS rely on for their very lives. We as a community do a lot to supplement what the government provides them, but these people have worked hard, contributed to this country and they deserve these benefits from their government.

Unknown to anyone other than Federal employees, dramatic positive changes have occurred for less.

ees, dramatic positive changes have occurred for les-bian and gay employees of the Federal gov-ernment. Clinton political appointees have been very supportive of the numerous gay and lesbian federal employee organi-zations which have formed to address is-sues in the workplace for lebbian end sour sues in the workplace for lesbian and gay employees. Dozens of agencies have recently implemented non-discrimina-tion policies. These changes are very real and very noticeable to those of us

who work for the Federal government.

Lastly and most importantly, we have to think of broader, more inclusive issues than just those affecting our community. The environment, women, blacks, Hispanics, and ethnic minorities need our vote for Clinton.

We have to join together to stop an age of dark-ness, hatred, selfishness, and division from descending upon us. America needs us now, and Clinton in spite of his problems is our only hope. To sit out the election and not vote is simply a vote for Bob Dole.

Greg L. Pennington San Francisco

Mailstrom

No interest in Nader

I appreciate the frustration with Bill Clinton ex-

I appreciate the frustration with Bill Clinton expressed in your editorial of May 16 when you said you hear more and more people saying they will vote for Ralph Nader for President in November.

Before anyone votes for Nader, however, I suggest they look up his recent interview by William Safire. Safire is reported to have asked Nader his position on lesbian/gay rights. Nader was quoted as having responded, "I have no interest in sexual politics."

If he truly has no interest in "sexual politics," why should those of us who do have any interest in voting for Ralph?

for Ralph?

Sorry to take all our choices away, but we must make our voting decisions based on as much information as possible.

David N. Bentley

Playing to the ignorami

Clinton and his staff piss me off! Although my anger could be more of a disillusionment about who anger could be more of a disillusionment about who they are than anything else. Clinton's statement in support of the DOMA bill and subsequent request to "look at my record" show that he and his staff are totally spineless and don't understand gay rights. First of all, you can't separate gay rights and gay marriage. They go hand-in-hand. To do so would be like amending the Civil Rights Act to state that African Americans couldn't marry each other. We already know this. They might know this, too. Clinton could still veto the bill on the basis that the federal government shouldn't get involved in the marriage process. ment shouldn't get involved in the marriage process. But no, that would still be too risky. They would rather trade the votes of the few (in their minds only) rather trade the votes of the few (in their minds only) hard-line gay voters for the many undecided conservative ignorami who will hear this statement and say, "You see, Clinton doesn't support gays after all!" We are being traded like slaves and told that "Massa knows best, you hear, now go along quietly and be a good child." They assume, hopefully not correctly, that most of us will think that Clinton is still better than Dole and that we'll run to the polls casting our vote in that direction. Let's not be fooled. Locally, we can still turn to our friends in the Board of Supervisors. But nationally, our only true friend has been and sors. But nationally, our only true friend has been and will prove to be the court system, not the president.

San Francisco

Kaiser cares

I would like to respond to Mr. G.G.H.'s letter "Kaiser, Kaiser, Kaiser, S./2/96. Mr. H states in his letter that "they [Kaiser] just don't care, or can't be bothered with such a small problem." While I understand why he feels this way, I would like to state that Kaiser as a whole does care. Kaiser cares about its patients, as a whole does care. Naiser cares about its patients, HIV or otherwise. Kaiser cares about its lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered employees and members as well. While there may be pockets of individuals who may have attitudes, ideas and opinions about the LGBT employees and/or community, Kaiser has taken IGBT employees and/or community, Kaiser has taken a strong stance against bigotry, hate and homophoia. We have a written policy of non-discrimination based on sexual orientation, domestic partner benefits, and a strong, well-received, recognized and sponsored LGBT association. This association has worked hard to bring forward the issues of fairness for all, not only in the workplace but for patients as well. Kaiser has been and is developing culturally competent care policies based on race, gender and sexual orientation. Kaiser has given generously to many HIV/AIDS agencies such as the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the AIDS Emergency Fund, the Asian AIDS Project and cies such as the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the AIDS Emergency Fund, the Asian AIDS Project and others. Kaiser has been the proud sponsor of the LGBT programming on KQED, channel 9 during Pride month for the past three years, as well as the awards for the Unsung Heroes that are celebrated during the month. I might add that Kaiser took some heat from members and others in the Bay Area because of this, but has decided to stick with it because it is the right thing to do

use of this, but has decided to stick with it because it is the right thing to do.
While the world is not perfect, I can honestly say that I am proud of who I am, proud of the organization that I work for, and prouder still of the work that the Kaiser Permanente Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Association (KPLGBA) has done within Kaiser and the community at large

within Kaiser and the community at large.

I also know that there are people in our community that will read this letter and snicker, laugh, call me a shill of the corporation, including your newspaper, but I don't care. Kaiser has growing to do, as we all do, including the B. A. R., but they have proven to me they are willing to take a stance and move forward. We are working with Kaiser and the other KP staff associations (Latino, Asian & African American) to improve service and the work environment as well as the community we serve. This same work is going on at other employers, Levi, Pac same work is going on at other employers, Levi, Pac Bell, Genentec, Charles Schwab. It is an ongoing rela-tionship that is building stronger ties, better goals, richer ideas, as well as reaching ours and the compa-ny's objectives and improving the bottom line.

> Randy K. DeBoer HIV Benefit Coordinator 1995 Co-chair KPLGBA Kaiser Permanente, SF

Getty treatment

Getty treatment

Re "PETA vs. Getty: enemies to the marrow?"
(5/9): Everybody—gay, straight, animal rights activist, animal experimenter—wishes the best for Jeff Getty. We all want him to get well and stay well. But, as passionate as his pleas are, should we be spending so much research money on repeating a transplant procedure that even Mr. Getty's doctor says will never be a practical treatment for people with AIDS? Perhaps that money should go to some of the other experimental—and potentially life-saving—treatments that could benefit everyone living with AIDS.

Margaret Sorrell

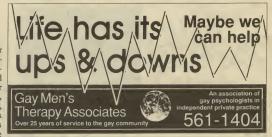
Bunnyhuggers united

Just to show that we bunnyhuggers are not a single-issue phenomenon, I've prevailed upon some of the leaders in animal protection organizations to write letters in opposition to Assemblyman Pete Knight's same-sex marriage bills (AB 1982 and 3227). These include The Fund for Animals, Humane Farm-ing Association, In Defense of Animals, et al. (Copies available upon request.) Senator Charles Calderon is chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and it is hoped that both these despicable bills can be defeated there. All state legislators can be written c/o The State Capitol, Sacramento CA 95814.

I'm also asking that everyone boycott the "Gay Rodeo" in San Jose. (Now there's an oxymoron for you!) I understand that so far this season only one anyour) understaint that so far this season only one animal has been killed. How many does it take before our community sees the irony of participation in such macho cruelty? The cowboys/girls, at least, have choice in the matter. Not so, the unwilling animals—some would say they're the brains of the operation.

The late Cesar Chavez perhaps said it best, when he wrote of rodeos: "Only when we have become non-violent towards all life will we have learned to live well ourselves."

Eric Mills Action For Animals Oakland, CA





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Brown's bum rap

Hitting Amos Brown with a charge of homopho-

Hitting Amos Brown with a charge of homophobia is a bum rap.
Years ago, a fuzzy support for fellow black minister Eugene Lumpkin was quickly dropped when religious fundamentalist Lumpkin went overboard with advocating the biblical stoning of gays to death.
A former homophobic reporter for the S.F. Sun Reporter, an African-American weekly, would put anti-gay twists to what Rev. Brown would say, requirent Reports of the say for mice. ing Brown to constantly correct this guy for mis-quoting and misinterpreting him.

Rev. Brown did not support the original domestic partners bill while it was limited to just gays. In order to gain his support, he insisted it be broadened to be more inclusive, to include common-law heterosexu-

Rev. Amos Brown was almost alone among black ministers in attending healing conferences put on by the Intergroup Clearing House, set up to open ongoing dialogue between different communities, particularly between the African-American and the gay,

ticularly between the African-American and the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community.

Amos Brown has worked hard in recent years against homophobia, in his preaching at his 3,000-member Third Baptist Church, his published articles in the S.F. Chronicle, the S.F. Examiner, and the S.F. Sun-Reporter, his hosting of his close personal friend, Rev. Jesse Jackson (who has become a strong advocate of gay rights), and making the Third Baptist Church the central meeting place in San Francisco for the Rainbow Coalition.

He has gathered ministers from all over the west coast to fight Governor Pete Wilson's University of California Board of Regents in their effort to end affirmative action. Hey, that's our battle, too!

Cannorna board of Regents in their eight to end affirmative action. Hey, that's our battle, tool

For some time, the San Francisco African-American community has looked upon Dr. Armos Brown as their leading public figure, as he fights for the slice of the public pie to which they feel entitled, the leader who well expresses the community's pleasure at vic-tories, and their anger and disappointment at their defeats. He speaks out.

This is a powerful man who can be a powerful friend. Please give the guy a chance.

Oppressed groups have to find ways of working together in coalition, rather than find ways to put each other down.

each other down.

The Rev. Dr. Amos Brown has cooperated with gay leaders in their particular fields. Ask Dr. Tim Wolfred, with whom Brown served six years on the S.F. Community College Board. Says Tim: "He always supported gay and lesbian issues." Rev. Cecil Williams said, "We're ecstatic at the justified appointment of this highly qualified, hard-working, most deserving person, who has a commitment to humanity to make things better for all people."

Amos Brown and Leslie Katz are an inspired addition to an outstanding S.F. Board of Supervisors. They will make us proud.

Bob Basker San Francisco

Lesbians in prison

Ungrateful, a zine for poor and working-class les-bians, is seeking information, contacts, and ideas for a resource list for lesbians in prison and jail. Especially needed are lesbian and lesbian-friendly resources for free and low-cost legal assistance, publications, information, advocacy and support projects. The list will be available to incarcerated lesbians and wimmin and also friends and allies of lesbians in jail and prison. For more info, write to *Ungrateful*, PO Box 11494, Milwaukee WI 53211.

> Ungrateful staff Milwaukee, WI

Call us callous

[The following letter was sent to reviewer Jim Coughenour:]

Cougnerour:)
Your review of Fenton Johnson's Geography of the
Heart (B.A.R., May 23) saddened me, as much for
what you said about yourself as for what you thought about the book.

You never knew Mr. Johnson's dead lover, Larry.

Why do you denigrate his memory and his relationship with Johnson with such sarcasm? Why do you call Johnson "profane" for memorializing Larry this way? Why do you defame a "heroically desperate" gay man who died young?

You admit that you are "too callous" to do the story justice and that memoirs of this sort make you story justice and that memoirs of this sort make you cringe. If you know that you feel this way, why didn't you just pass on this assignment and review some other book? But that is not the point. To call yourself callous is a euphemism. Maybe you can't help being selfish and self-centered, but you don't need to offend the public in a published review. Another Jim – former Alabama Governor James Folsom – once caused an Alabama newspaper to comment: "Jim can't help being a fool, but he *could* stay home."

Michael McCloskey

No mas

I've been a San Francisco resident for almost two decades, and I've witnessed the drastic change (not necessarily for the better) the city has gone through.

Anyone with a basic awareness of the escalating

problems of scarce housing, skyrocketing rents, homelessness, unemployment, crime, etc. can see how systematic commercial gentrification and encroachment of our neighborhoods has negatively affected communities citywide.

When unscrupulous landlords/owners of commercial properties realize that they can get a much higher rent from a new profit-minded entrepreneur who can pay it, they quickly grab this opportunity and proceed to increase their tenants' rents so high they cannot afford to pay them, thus forcing the ten-ants to go out of business. There is no commercial property rent control law in San Francisco, and tenants have no legal and/or remedial recourse.
This unwelcome trend has taken a foothold in our

This unwelcome trend has taken a foothold in our neighborhoods as we witness the proliferation (or over-saturation, if you will) of schlocky fast food and upscale restaurants, high-priced boutique shops, pretentious and glitzy fern bars and espresso/cappuccino hangouts, as well as those "touristy" junky eyesores they call mini shopping malls. That talk of "Well, you can't stop progress" as if "progress" is manifest destiny is nothing but transparent crap! This so-called "progress" is nothing but transparent crap! This so-called "progress" is discovered this lovely city into one we cannot afford to live in. A city where everywhere you go you see more and more vacant storefronts with "For Rent" signs on them, with many of them all boarded up. A city where property values have replaced human values. Blame for

them, with many of them all boarded up. A city where property values have replaced human values. Blame for this sad state of affairs should be placed at the doorstep of the profit-hungry real estate conglomerate. Anyone who doesn't agree with the negative impact on quality of life that unrestrained and runaway overcommercialization has brought to our city's communities, should have his/her brain examined.

Systematic gentrification and/or encroachment of our neighborhoods is not acceptable.

Systematic gentrification and/or encroachment of our neighborhoods is not acceptable.

The traitorous "sell-outs" in our communities, whose pockets are being lined with "bribe money" from the well-heeled entrepreneurs, should be seen for what they are: selfish, pathetic creatures who stand to gain at the expense of our neighborhoods.

Conscientious San Francisco residents/voters like yours truly are keeping a close eye on Da Mayor and his rubber stamp called the Planning Commission, and look forward to the next mayoral election, when we'll use our loudest mouthpiece: the ballot box. we'll use our loudest mouthpiece: the ballot box.

Henry Stepanek San Francisco

Bad spin at Folsom Fair

After reading in another, smaller local magazine about the state of the Folsom Fair's Dance Stage, I felt about the state of the Folsom Fair's Dance Stage, I felt it necessary to write in. I just don't understand why the fair people need to change such a great fair. The only reason my friends and I go out to the fair is to dance our asses off to the great music. Since the Gay Pride has been taken over by corporate interests, the Folsom Fair is the only place to go hear SF's best Gay DJs all playing the same day. None of the clubs even come close. I was blown away by last year's DJs and was really looking forward to this September. Now that I hear it's gonna be KMEL's DJs playing, my friends and I see no reason to go out. I've never heard of the two DJs they listed from their station, nor do they spin at any of the clubs we go to (The Stud, Vsf, ASIA, End Up). What a drag!

Larry Burk San Francisco

Reheated classic

Erin Blackwell's review, "Cold Comfort Farm: not for the Masterpiece Theatre crowd," contains the fol-lowing statement: "... Comfort is the antithesis of a re-

lowing statement: "... Comfort is the antithesis of a reheated classic a la Masterpiece Theatre."

Several years ago Masterpiece Theatre presented a superb version of Cold Comfort Farm, in which Alastair Sim gave a brilliant performance in the role of Amos, now being played by Sir Ian McKellen. Masterpiece Theatre's production was one of the program's greatest achievements. I commend it to Ms. Blackwell. It is inconceivable that reviewers who praise John Schlesinger's film should be ignorant of its predecessor, particularly if they adversely criticize its producer for its selection of material.

John R. McConnell

The B.A.R. welcomes signed, mailed letters to the The B.A.R. welcomes signed, mailed letters to the editor; anonymous and faxed letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter – this information will not be published.

Handwritten letters will be considered for publication only if clearly legible. In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be writed. In the published with a possible we ask letter writers to be a clied for length or other and the published with a pub

brief. Letters may be edited for length or other appropriate consideration.

Icaenoclast

by Wayne Friday

hronicle columnist Herb Caen announced in a front-page column last week that he is battling lung cancer. The Pulitzer Prize-winning writer, who confirmed that he is underwho confirmed that he is undergoing chemotherapy while fighting the "inoperable" cancer, stated that he hoped to continue to write the powerful gossip column that has entertained and occasionally irked Bay Area readers (and those who read Caen in several syndicated papers) for 58 years, on at least a three-timesper-week basis. per-week basis.

I first met Herb Caen 20 years

ago, but anyone who writes any thing that faintly resembles a column considers this man an icon without peer. Los Angeles had Jack Smith for many years; Chicago readers regularly followed columnists Mike Royko and Irv Kupcinet; and others were equally as famous around the country. However, Herb Caen was, and is, the best.

Shortly after moving to San Francisco in the early '70s, I was having lunch on Polk Street with poet Rod McKuen, and as we walked across the street, McKuen drew a crowd of autograph seekers. It got back to Caen, who in reporting the incident men-**Our Man Friday**

tioned my
name for the first time.
Caen had his longtime assistant, Carole Vernier, check to make sure that "Wayne Friday" was really my name. He has since told me that he was sure it was something made up for a Tennessee Williams play. Partly, I think, because Mr. Caen was so intrigued by my name, he has over the years mentioned it so many times that I stopped saving

many times that I stopped saving the clippings years ago. Press agents and publicists by the thousands have tried every trick in the book to get their clients mentioned in Herb Caen's column – and most of them never got in. It has been said that a mention of a show, restaurant, or per-former in a Caen column was better than a full-page ad anywhere in the *Chronicle*. If Mr. Caen liked you, he could make you at least a

you, he could make you at least a minor celebrity.

For example, a plug for local singers he enjoyed, like Weslia Whitfield or Sharon McNight, would sell out their performances. Steve Silver's Beach Blanket Babylon made millions for Silver once Caen had seen and reported favorably on it

once Caen had seen and reported favorably on it.

Did – does – Mr. Caen play favorites? Sure. If he likes a political candidate and if that person is his friend (John Molinari and Willie Brown come quickly to mind), he is shameless about publicizing them week after week.

For someone like myself who

For someone like myself who finds it difficult to crank out a column *once* a week, it must have been one hell of a chore for Mr. Caen to have pushed out five a week for nearly 60 years. Caen not only wrote about the rich and fa-mous but also about common San Franciscans and everyday events, whenever he found someone or something that aroused his

A couple of years ago, I was in a downtown bookstore and noticed a line of people out the door and down the block. Herb Caen



Days of yore: Wayne Friday (left) poses with scenemeister Herb Caen at a party at the Washington Square Bar and Grill.

was sitting at a table in the store signing his latest book. I have all the rest of them, so I grabbed one and waited in line.

Mr. Caen was quickly signing his name to books handed to him, always with a word of thanks to the buyer. The woman in front of me had nine copies for him to sign, which he did

patiently. The lady told Caen she lived in Concord, adding, "My mother and I have been sending you items for years, but you've never once printed one. What does it take to get mentioned in one of your

As he signed her last book and

As he signed her last book and was handing it to her, he looked up and noticed me directly behind her. He commented to the woman, "Ask the guy behind you. He's practically a regular."

Herb Caen has been one of my gods for years, and when another well-known writer, **Warren Hinckle**, referred to me a few years ago as "the Herb Caen of the Castro," he paid me one hell of a compliment. That clipping I saved.

pliment. That clipping I saved.

This column is not meant to be any kind of obituary for Herb Caen. The man, 80 years old and one hell of a fighter, will most likely be beating the hell out of his trusty old typewriter for many years to come. He's simply that kind of guy.

Politics and poker

Mayor Willie Brown is hosting a "sendoff reception" for soon-to-be Assemblyman Supervisor Kevin Shelley on Wednesday, June 19, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at Delancey Street, 600 The Embarcadero. Tickets are \$100 and up. Call 732-3778 for info.

And yes, that was Da Mayor at a ringside table at Sharon Mc-Night's opening Thursday at the Plush Room in the York Hotel, with Jack Davis, Ted Fang, and

In Austin last week, the predominantly gay Log Cabin Clubs of Texas sued the state GOP for breach of contract for refusing to assign them exhibit space at the state GOP convention or sell them an ad in the program. The gay/les-bian GOP group's goals conflict with the party platform, a Repub-

lican spokesperson said.

And in Michigan, the Republican-controlled Legislature recent-

ly passed a bill to prohibit sameex marriage (no surprise there) and sent it to GOP Governor John Engler, a Dole veep wannabe, to sign or veto. The Michigan House passed and sent to the state Senate a bill that would also bar the state from recognizing same and property of the state from the state from the state from recognizing same and the state from the state f

would also bar the state from recognizing same-sex marriages performed in other states. At least 11 states have passed similar measures since 1995, when Hawaii began moving toward legalizing gay marriage.

Yes, I agree that San Francisco supervisors should be given a decent pay raise. They should be making in the \$55,000-\$60,000 range for a full-time position. I would also like to see the 11-member district elections we once had make a comeback. had make a comeback. With 197 countries participat-

ing and maybe as many as 100 heads of state attending – and with all America watching – the Republicans are furious that they can do nothing about the fact that President Clinton will officially

President Clinton will officially open the Olympic Games in Atlanta July 20.

Seattle Mayor Norm Rice, a Democrat who is hoping to become Washington's first black governor, is busy denying rumors of a past's gay affair. His GOP opponent's supporters are dishing ponent's supporters are dishing

ponent's supporters are dishing the dirt.

The Quote of the Week is from **Bob Hattoy**, an openly gay HIVer, who's also a White House aide. He urges gays and lesbians to back Clinton in November despite the prez's recent betrayal on the same-sex marriage issue. "To support same-sex marriage at this particular cultural moment in America is a loser," declares Hattoy, adding that some "gays are threatening to oppose Clinton's re-election or seek a divisive convention fight over the issue. What I'm saying to them is 'Politics isn't I'm saying to them is 'Politics isn't therapy.' Talk to your lover or talk to your therapist, but go and vote, still for this president; otherwise, the right wing wins the election."

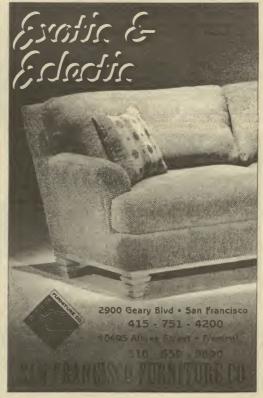
Certainly, none of us like Clinton's decision, but the Republicans have cleverly pushed this issue in hopes of eroding Mr. Bill's gay support. It's important to note Time's recent report on an overheard conference call between Bob Dole and top GOP fundraisers. One GOP moneybags, a forers. One GOP moneybags, a former aide to **George Bush**, quite openly says, "If we don't seize on this same-sex marriage issue, then we don't deserve to win." Don't let 'em get away with it, I say.



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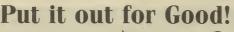
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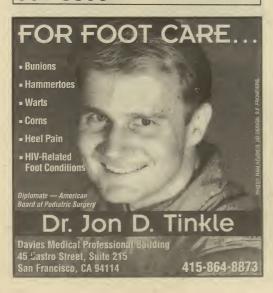




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COMMUNITY NEWS

Klan capers



he KKK makes its annual appearance at the Sixth Fresno Pride Parade and Festival June 2, although, according to onlookers, their sheets were a bit tatty this year. The group was, as always, largely ignored, except by their police escort. Instead, attention was focused on the half-hour parade replete with dykes on bikes, drag queens, buffed boys, PFLAG and a disco float heading up the rear. A festival highlight was an appearance by the Del Rubio Triplets.

Queers in Hicksville

by Beth Elliott

arms in Berkeley? Moo! Dept.: Like a halfback in pink hot pants, like hillbil-lies on the moon, like queers in Hicksville. Another May, another test of "queering" versus assimila-tion in the form of attending another woman friend's heterosexuother woman friend's heterosexu-al Jewish wedding – this time in New York City. Yes, sports fans, time again to ask the musical question: can two left-handed bass players find love and happiness in a great metropolitan, uh, metropolis. Time for that other question, can a right-handed les-bian bass player make a queer weekend out of said hetero wedding and a stay in a Levitt-de-signed suburb? And time for the bonus question, does said right-handed lesbian bass player really

give a rodent's hindquarters?

The female left-handed bass player in question is my friend Jenny, who played guitar in my old band, Satin Food Stamps, and whom I call "The Big J" because she's 5'4" and skinny. She's also been my yardstick for straight boys' cluelessness: how else could someone so cute, so bright, so gracious, and so ethical have such gracious, and so ethical have such trouble finding a boyfriend? I've seen woman after woman recog-nize that The Big J is a major catch — all to no avail, despite her ac-knowledgments that she's flattered and her gentle, near-apologetic confessions of disinterest. No way would I not be there to

celebrate her marriage.

And a trip to the East Coast And a trip to the East Coast meant hanging out with friends I'd ordinarily visit via telephone and e-mail. So Emily, the Bryn Mawr leather babe, took the train up from Philly for cosmetic and lingerie shopping and general femme bonding. So Denise, the Transsexual Menace co-founder who'd scored Stonewall 25 press credentials for me, invited me to stay with her out on Lon Gisland

Time traveling

Shopping went by the boards because everyone who could flee the city for the long weekend seemed to have done so. Good thing we'd done yellow pages sorts and dialing on-line; instead of wasting time running all over Manhattan, the three of us took the subway to the Cloisters. The Cloisters is a museum of medieval art and architecture set in a park at the northern tip of Manhattan - a place to step back in time. Yo Beth sez, check it out. After Emily headed back for Philly, Denise and I took the Long Island Rail-road back to Hicksville.

Yes, Virginia, there is an actual Hicksville. Back when it was the Hick estate, farmers from the surrounding farms would bring their wares to Manhattan to cries of "Here come the hicks from Hicksville." Today, it's a prototypical middle-class suburb - pretty houses with yards and trees, and blocks full of kids playing in the front street, in-cluding Denise's ten-year-old daugh-Courtney Sapphistication

(Baby Names of the '80s! echo). And that's where things got

interesting.

Denise is one of those modern queer parents who hold their chil-dren to basic ethical standards dren to basic ethical standards well and thoroughly communicated, giving them the opportunity to earn nearly unlimited freedom through behavior that consistently reflects a grasp of those standards. On Sunday afternoon, Denise barbecued, and after lunch the conversation turned to puber. the conversation turned to puberty. It seems one of the neighbor boys has taken a liking to Courtney, but is at the age where he communicates that by teasing her. Denise commented on this, and led into the message that Court-ney could, when old enough to who used to be girls, or boys who used to be girls, or girls who used to be boys. Courtney replied that if she were to date a boy, she'd want him to be a boy who'd al-

ways been a boy.

To protect Courtney from the dorkiness of this limited concept of a worthy date, Denise proposed some role play to test how a transsexual suitor might feel. First, she had me play FTM suitor "Bob" breaking the news to an adult "Clarice." Her change of heart must have been sincerely felt, because when she played Clarice as an MTF coming out to nontransgendered Bob, she swiftly pulled

the rug out from under every New York-accented protestation I could muster. Creative parenting with a bright child – I felt privileged to have taken part.

No ping-pong Denise rewarded Courtney

with a grown-up treat: watching Priscilla, Queen of the Desert on video with us. She did caution Courtney not to use the bad words the adult actors used, and we fast-forwarded through the ping-pong ball scene. Afterward, Denise had Courtney walk the dogs again, knowing full well the kids in the street would come up to pet the dogs and recruit Courtney for their game of team hide-and-seek. Mes-

sage: Courtney could have a transgendered parent yet still be just one of

the neighborhood kids.

I pulled lawn chairs for Denise and me around to the driveway while she brewed tea. Watching the children play in the twilight the children play in the twilight was like stepping into a picture book, except I've never seen a picture book in which a parent interacts with the kids while wearing a Transsexual Menace satin starter jacket and a Dyke TV cap. I took it all in with full awareness of the hyperreality of the scene, knowing I'd entered that zone in which op-posites cease to be opposites and you sense you're seeing with more than just physical eyes and linear

The next day I walked into a scene that was pure Jenny, from the Beatles entrance music ("If I the Beatles entrance music ("If I Fell") to her forgetting to remove her gum before walking down the aisle but looking stunning anyway, to her and Talbot singing in Hebrew, to their not being able to dodge getting hoisted on chairs but riding high while the DJ played "Satisfaction."

On the flight home, I thought of the line from Priscilla about

of the line from *Priscilla* about suburbs – there to keep queers in or rednecks out? And I knew there was a third path beyond queering suburbia or assimilating: moving with personal integrity through a multiplicity of worlds – even more than one at the same time.



Beat bibliophiles Ellen Anderson (left) and Linda Harrison left the Big Apple for SF's Hayes Valley.

Lesbian couple's binding love:

A bookstore of one's own

by Jim Emerson

dream and a \$50,000 investment are beginning to pay off for a lesbian couple who founded Beat Books last November in the Hayes Valley section of San Francisco.

Business at their tony book-shop has reached a break-even point sooner than the women an-ticipated. "We haven't taken in profits yet, but the business is covering itself, by paying for the rent and invento-

ry," says co-owner Linda Harrison.

Beat Books spe-cializes in used and out-of-print titles in such sub-jects as inte-**Out For Business** rior decorat-ing, food,

wine, fine arts, and foreign litera-ture. Harrison explains that used bookstores tend to be most successful when they specialize in out-of-print books for specific

subject categories.

The richly decorated shop located at 552 Hayes Street features comfortable leather furniture, Persian carpets, and prints hung on the walls, which are all intend ed to create a home library mood for selling books. "We've been colfor selling books. "We we been col-lecting books for years and basi-cally we've taken our living room and gone public," Harrison says. Besides buying and selling books and book collections, Beat Books also sells library furnish-

Books also sells library furnish-ings and artwork, and recently de-signed a library of 100 for-sale books for Hotel Boheme in San Francisco. Harrison also does de-sign consulting work for home li-

'Be out and have fun'

Harrison, 44, and her partner of seven years, Ellen Anderson, 40, began preparing to open Beat Books soon after they moved to Berkeley in the summer of 1994. Both women quit their jobs at Eastman Kodak Co. to open the bookstore. Harrison, formerly na-tional sales manager and director of marketing, was transferred from New York to San Francisco in 1994, but turned in her resig-

nation one year later.

Anderson quit her administrator job at Kodak in New York when Harrison's job was transferred to San Francisco, and did much of the legwork to open the store, such as dealing with city buesses because start-up costs and

the cost of living are generally less expensive than other larger cities,

especially New York, Anderson says. ▼

Beat Books may be reached at (415) 554-0435. Send items for Out For Business to: Jim Emerson, P.O. Box 14604, San Francisco CA 94114-1406

"We left our jobs in stable cor-porate America, if you can call corporate America stable, because we wanted to use our talents to start our own business, where we could be out and have some fun," Harrison says.

Harrison says.

It took about three years to develop the salon concept and finally organize the opening of Beat Books, financed largely from the proceeds of a house the county and defention.

couple sold a few years ago in Los An-

"It took one year of looking to find the right loca-tion," An-

tion," Anderson says. Hayes Valley's mix of galleries, cafes, and eclectic shops attracted the women, because the neighborhood doesn't have the chain stores or shopping mall feel of higher rent districts like the Castro district.

"We did a lot of homework and chose Hayes Valley because of

"We did a lot of homework and chose Hayes Valley because of the types of businesses in this area, and the rents are good," Harrison says. "We looked at a lot of locations in the Bay Area, but we kept coming back."

Much of the renovation grunt work was done by the women.

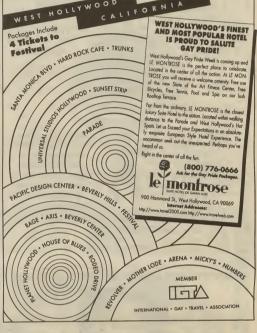
work was done by the women, which included tearing down in-terior walls and installing shelving and other fixtures, refinishing the floor, and some painting – before they decided it would be better to

hire a professional painter.
"We were working until 11 or 12 o'clock at night until our mer-chant neighbors told us we had to go home to rest," Harrison says.

"There was also a security issue, being that we were the only people working in a storefront at that hour," adds Anderson. Harrison and Anderson often

work together in the store, besides visiting auctions and estate sales to obtain books. Harrison also works part-time as a lecturer for the Haas Business School at the University of California in Berke-University of California in Berke-ley, Her part-time income and the couple's savings are supporting them, while they're building their Beat Books business. San Francisco is a good place for entrepreneurs to start busi-





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'Dining Out' promotes food for life

by Dennis Conkin

avor Willie Brown and restaurateur Jeremiah Tower are the honorary co-chairs of Dining Out For Life, the annual Visual AID fundraiser

the annual Visual AID fundraiser set for Thursday, June 13, in restau-rants throughout San Francisco. The benefit is expected to raise an estimated \$30,000 for Visual AID programs, according to Jim Fisher, director of the non-profit group that assists artists living with AIDS and other life-threat-

ening illnesses.

"We've received a tremendous response from restaurants wanting to support Bay Area artists, who face a difficult choice be-

who face a difficult choice between healthcare and career when they become disabled and their income is restricted," Fisher said.

More than 100 San Francisco restaurants are participating in the fundraiser this year, up from the 60 venues who joined last year, Fisher said.

Castro and Noe Valley restaurants

Castro and Noe Valley restaurants joining in the annual benefit

include Welcome Home, Valentine's Cafe, Mecca, Firefly, Ma Tante Sumi, Ryan's Restaurant,

dame a restaurant, Rory's Twisted Scoop, and the Quarter Deck. According to Fisher, partici-pating restaurants donate a por-tion of the price for each meal ortion of the price for each meal or-dered during the evening to Visu-al AID – an average of 15 percent per meal – and no special meals must be ordered or tickets pur-chased to benefit the group. In addition to ordering a meal to support the work of Visual AID, diners can also enter a drawing for

diners can also enter a drawing for two pairs of round-trip tickets to London on Virgin Atlantic Air-ways, and for complimentary overnight packages at local bed and breakfast hotels. Registration cards will be available at each diner's table for the drawing, which will be held on July 1.

With an annual budget of an estimated \$180,000, Visual AID provides a wide range of services to artists with AIDS, including an Art Bank and a voucher program for working artists. That program provides critically-needed supplies through two programs, sup-ported by more than 44 local firms. The supplies range from such basics as paper, canvas, paint, and brushes to photographic chemicals and other material for photographers; materials for sculpture such as woods and met-als; and other essentials for artists

als; and other essentials for artists working in a variety of media. In addition, Visual AID also has a volunteer studio assistant program, an exhibitor program, workshops in a variety of topics of interest to professional artists, and salons. It is also developing an archive that focuses on the work of artists who receive grants or assistance.

For a fax of a complete list of For a tax of a complete list of San Francisco restaurants participating in Dining Out For Life call 1-800-903-5242. For a complete list of Castro area and other participating sites contact castroweb at http://www.castroweb.com. For information about Visual AID contact 777-8242.

Now on video: The Qigong Show!

by Dennis Conkin

two-tape set of videos developed to introduce and guide people living with HIV/AIDS to Qigong – an ancient Chinese form of healing movement and exercise, similar to Tai Chi or other martial arts, but used introd fee healing in contents.

Chi or other martial arts, but used instead for healing — is now available through the Immune Enhancement Project.

All proceeds from the video will go to support the work of the IEP, a 16th Street acupuncture clinic serving people with AIDS/HIV, according to instructor George Wedemeyer.

"It was really a labor of love," Wedemeyer told the Bay Area Reporter. "And we are getting requests for the video from all over the country,"

quests for the video from an over-the country."

The tape was designed so peo-ple who were unable to attend classes could practice at home. Wedemeyer said the work-outs can be performed either sitting in a chair or standing up.

"The first tape is an hour-and-

a-half video instruction, designed for an easy learning pace of four weeks," he said. "The second tape is a hour-long regular work-out that people can follow along with."

The instructional tape also includes breathing and other exercises to peny up the flow of energies to one unit of the said of the said

cises to open up the flow of energy along meridian pathways and balance and tonify organ systems throughout the body.

The color videotapes feature

an original score by San Francis-co Symphony musician Roger Weismeyer, performed by flutist Marie Tamburrino, and are avail-able for \$59.99.

"It's doing well," Wedemeyer said. "We made 1,000, and we are selling between 15-20 a week."

'Acupuncture without needles'

A common problem with many Tai Chi or similar-style movement instruction videos is that they are performed outdoors and rapidly, according to Wedemeyer, and students can't adequately see the movements and don't have enough time to practice before a new

movement is introduced.
"We keep it really simple," he said. "It's preventative medicine, that's the best part about it. It keeps the body open – and many people call it acupuncture with-out the needles. It's an integral part of Chinese medicine." Wedemeyer said he and co-in-structor Emilio Gonzales are cur-

rently in negotiations with Kaiser, California Pacific Medical Center, and the University of California to and the University of California to teach Qigong at the healthcare fa-cilities. Wedemeyer and Gonzales currently teach weekly Qigong classes at 50 Oak Street.

According to a recent study by the San Francisco Department of Public Health, nearly one-third of all long-term HIV/AIDS survivors are using traditional Chinese medical arts as part of their continuum of care. ▼

For video ordering information call toll-free 1-800-835-6555. For information about classes contact George Wedemeyer at (415) 975-4561.

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'Great Commute for AIDS' next week

by Cynthia Laird

alled an "unprecedented" public awareness and fundraising effort, organizers of the first Great Bay Area Commute for AIDS aim to forge a link between two issues considered by Bay Area residents to be among the most acute problems facing them: the HIV/AIDS epi-

demic and traffic congestion.

Organizers hope that people will find alternatives to driving to work Wednesday, June 12, and donate the normal cost of that day's commute to support 11 local HIV/AIDS care programs throughout the Bay Area.

That way, the organizers say, people will not only help HIV/AIDS programs, but will also help save the environment and save money, stress, and wear and tear on their vehicles.

tear on their vehicles.
"The central message of the Great Bay Area Commute for AIDS is that by working together we can build a stronger and healthier community, even if we work for different causes," said Eric Walrabenstein of RIDES for Bay Area Commuters. Inc. The Bay Area Commuters, Inc. The private, nonprofit corporation, which helps commuters find alwhich helps commuters find alternatives to driving alone, developed the event through a collaboration with the 11 benefiting HIV/AIDS care programs. Other major sponsors include Shadow Broadcast Services and PG&E. Walrabenstein said the goals of the one-day event are to raise a minimum of \$600,000 for local HIV/AIDS programs and to get the

HIV/AIDS programs and to get the message to one million commuters.

More than 3,000 local employ ers are helping promote the Great Bay Area Commute for AIDS by distributing pledge cards for com-muters to make a donation. Hun-dreds of smaller Bay Area businesses have agreed to display posters and distribute flyers promoting the

event, Walrabenstein said.
"The direct benefits of the program will be the funds donated to HIV/AIDS care programs, and increased use of commute alternatives," commented John E. Hirten, executive director of RIDES for Bay Area Commuters. "However, the Great Bay Area Commute for AIDS is also about education: raising awareness of these two improviding people with the means to get involved and help make a

How you can help

People who drive alone spend 32 cents per mile to get to work, ac-cording to the California State Automobile Association estimate for gas, maintenance, tires, and wear gas, maintenance, rites, and wear and tear. The figure does not in-clude costs for bridge tolls or park-ing, which organizers hope donors will add on to their pledge forms. Commuters are asked to calcu-late the miles of their daily round

trip journey, multiply the figure by 32 cents, and donate that amount. Any size donation is wel-

come, however.
Organizers are also looking for volunteers to pass out informa-tion and collect pledges and dotion and collect pledges and do-nations at commuter transit points such as train and BART stations, bus terminals, and the San Francisco Ferry Building. The pledge card also offers people an opportunity to receive information, about local

information about HIV/AIDS programs, including children/youth; counseling, or group services; peer support; food, clothing, or housing; finan-

food, clothing, or housing; finan-cial aid; transportation; preven-tion services; health care; needle exchange; volunteering; women's services; or making a donation. Additionally, commuters are given an opportunity to select in-formation on carpool, vanpool, or bicyclist match lists in the hope they will continue to use an alter-native means of transportation to native means of transportation to get to and from work after the commuter fundraiser is over.

"We have developed an excit-ing campaign to help people un-derstand how much money they can save by taking commuting options that help ease congestion." options that help ease congestion and preserve our environment," said Allan D. Shore, a co-founder of the event. "Our hope is that they will then be willing to give those savings from the day of the event to the HIV/AIDS programs that are working so hard to take care of our friends, loved ones, and family members."

Shore noted that every day, three million Bay Area residents commute to and from work, and every day, the lives of millions more residents are affected, di-

rectly or indirectly, by the HIV/AIDS epidemic.
"These are issues that affect us

"These are issues that affect us all," he said.
All proceeds from the event will benefit 11 organizations, including the AIDS Emergency Fund; Alameda County Exchange; Alta Bates Hemophilia; ARIS of Santa Clara County; Diablo Valley AIDS Center; East Bay AIDS Center; East Bay AIDS Foundation; ELLIPSE of San Mateo County; the Marin AIDS Project; the Napa Valley AIDS Project; and WORLD, Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases.

Life-threatening Diseases.

A separate fund is expected to be created for distribution of money to other agencies in the region. ▼

For more information on the Great Bay Area Commute for AIDS, or to volunteer, call 1-800-RIDE-4-AIDS





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For Christ's sake



ot to be outdone by the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day extravaganza, the Son of God had his own parade June 1 in downtown San Francisco. Prior to the March for Jesus, supporters of that Man from Nazareth, a carpenter by trade whose mother was the noted Mary, whooped it up in sunny Justin Hermann Plaza.

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'Saints Alive' honored

by Cynthia Laird

he honorees of Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco's "Saints Alive" awards ceremony Saturday, June 1 represented the diversity of the gay and lesbian community and its supporters, with recipients covering a broad spectrum of concerns, including AIDS/HIV activism and same-gender mar-

riage.

The fourth annual event was held at Temple Emanu-El before an audience of approximately 300 people. MCC-SF Senior Pastor people. MCC-SF Senior Pastor Reverend Jim Mitulski and KRON-TV entertainment re-porter Jan Wahl presented the eight Saints Alive awards. Standing ovations were given to recipients Ninia Baehr and Genora Dancel, the plaintiffs in the Hawaii same, gender marriage

the Hawaii same-gender marriage lawsuit known as *Baehr v. Miike*; and to Jeff Getty, the Bay Area AIDS activist who was transfused with baboon bone marrow last December

The other honorees were: Dr. Joycelyn Elders, former surgeon general; Dr. Charles Garfield, founder of the Shanti Project; founder of the Shanti Project; Reverend Yvette Flunder, co-founder of the Arc of Refuge, an HIV/AIDS nonprofit agency; Matthew Coles, director of both the ACLU's national Lesbian and Gay Rights Project and its HIV/AIDS Project; Cindy Acker, president of Professional Associa-tion for Childhood Education; and the San Francisco Gay Men's and the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. Additionally, Allen White was honored with MCC-SF's first "community angel" award.

'For all of us'

Baehr and Dancel were both born in Honolulu. In 1990, after the women applied for a marriage license and their application was denied, they joined with two other couples and filed a lawsuit against the state of Hawaii for vi-

against the state of Hawaii of vi-olating their civil right to marry. The case has been winding its way through the Hawaiian court system for almost six years. The court has already ruled prelimi-

court has already ruled prelimi-narily that the state must prove a compelling reason why same-gen-der marriage should not be legal. As a result, it is expected that sometime this August or Septem-ber, same-gender marriage will become legal in Hawaii. The women, who now live in

The women, who now live in Baltimore, Maryland, told the audience that they had no idea the case would invoke such passionate feelings or generate as much controversy as it has.

"When we first got involved, we had no support," Baehr said.
"This is not just for us, it's something for all of us."

Dancel added, "This year has

Dancel added, This year has been particularly fascinating to me. As gay people we've always been discriminated against. We have the right to join our souls with whoever we want to?

Anti-Christ or saint?

Getty, a member of ACT UP/Golden Gate, was honored for his "relentless pursuit of life, and for his willingness to share his en-ergy with others."

Getty said that since some have called ACT UP/Golden Gate "sa-tanic," there must be "a thin line between being an anti-Christ and

being a saint.
"ACT UP/Golden Gate and Project Inform are two of the most important groups whose members are dedicated to finding



Rev. Yvette Flunder

a cure or die trying," he said. Since 1992, Getty has been instrumental in many things associated with AIDS research and drug advocacy. He was the first study subject in the world to receive a sibling white blood cell transfer, which is now being seriously studied by the National Institutes for Health.

Additionally, he assisted in the coordination of a national protease inhibitor compassionate use campaign that resulted in three major drug companies providing free drugs to thousands of people with AIDS nationwide.

Personal price

Elders was the only recipient who could not attend the ceremony, but she accepted her Saints Alive award via video.

"I want to thank Metropolitan Community Church for the work they do everyday being inclusive rather than exclusive," Elders said. "I loved being your surgeon gen-

eral."
Elders was appointed surgeon general by President Clinton and served in that capacity from September 1993 to December 1994.

She was honored by MCC-SF for her work "to provide our nation with a realistic view of human sexuality. Only by speaking the truth about such issues as masturbation and sexuality can people learn what they need to know to be responsible for their own health.

"We recognize the courage that Dr. Elders has shown by speaking openly about topics that others have been afraid to address, and we acknowledge the personal price she has had to pay."

"I am continuing speaking out on health issues and human sex-uality issues," Elders said in the

Healers and caregivers

Flunder was honored for her work dedicated to spreading the message of God's love, diversity, and inclusivity to all people.

In response to HIV/AIDS,

Flunder was instrumental in Love Center Ministries' establishment of An Ark of Love, which opened the Ark House, the first commu-nal living facility run by an African-American church for people impacted by AIDS.

She began City of Refuge Church here in 1991, and along with the church, founded the Ark with the church, founded the Ark of Refuge, a nonprofit organization. The agency has since opened the Hazard-Ashley House in Oakland, and Restoration House in San Francisco, which provide services to people who have AIDS. Flunder thanked people at MCC for their work "healing the breaches that have existed historically between the African-American and lesbian/gay/bisexual/

transgender community.
"In the African-American community there have always been lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgendered people in church," Flunder said.

Garfield founded the Shanti Project in 1974. It is one of the first community-based, peer-sup-port HIV/AIDS caregiving orga-nizations and has served as the

model for over 300 agencies throughout the world. Garfield is also a clinical pro-fessor of psychiatry at U.C. San Francisco and a co-founder of Full Circle, an organization dedicated to the support of HIV/AIDS

caregivers.

"I accept this with tremendous gratitude for caregivers, past, present, and future," he said.

'I'm no saint'

Coles was honored for his efforts to promote equal rights for all people and for his commitment to serving the gay and lesbian, and especially the people with HIV/AIDS communities.

In his role as director of the ACLU's lesbian and gay rights and HIV/AIDS projects, Coles was one of the architects of the recently successful challenge to the

one of the architects of the re-cently successful challenge to the constitutionality of Colorado's anti-gay initiative, Amendment 2, before the U.S. Supreme Court. He has also recently argued several cases challenging the mil-itary's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" pol-icy in the federal court of appeals.

Coles caused the audience to laugh when he said, "I'm no saint." But he was very appreciative of the award and said he's been fortunate to love his work.

Coles has also served as a social, educational, political, and legal activist for many gay and lesbian organizations.

Memory and the Fifth Section

Acker was honored for her spiritual, practical, and educational leadership that has inspired and empowered hundreds of people to be the best they can be. She has increased access to healthcare

has increased access to healthcare and education, primarily for children, and especially for children impacted by HIV/AIDS.

She and her partner, Millie Jessen-Acker, own and operate the Child Unique Montessori School in Alameda. Acker also co-founded Memory, the first HIV/AIDS agency serving the city of Alameda. Acker asked that people in the audience remember that many tiny things can have a powerful impact.

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus was honored for provid-ing nearly 18 years of musical ex-cellence as a vehicle for entertaining as well as serving the gay and lesbian community, particularly in San Francisco.

There are currently about 150 men in the chorus, plus another 150 in what's known as the "Fifth Section," the term used to designate those who have died of AIDS during the past 12 years.

The chorus started in 1978 as

a group of men who gathered on the steps of City Hall to sign a memorial hymn in honor of the slain Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk. Since then, it has grown to be one of the largest, most acclaimed choruses in the country.

Frank Johnson, executive di-Frank Johnson, executive director emeritus, told the audience that he "prays for the day when we can stop keeping track" of those who have died and are remembered in the Fifth Section.

Bay Area playwright speaks at gay alumni reception

by Cynthia Laird

he University of California Gay and Lesbian Alumni (UCGALA) hosted awardwinning playwright, director, and actor John Fisher at a reception in San Francisco on Sunday, May 26.

The event followed a matinee performance of Fisher's Medea: The Musical, and was held to support the student scholarship and mentorship programs of the Cal-ifornia Alumni Association

Steve Addison, a UC Berkeley graduate and chair of UCGALA, noted the alumni group provides a wide range of activities. There are over 100 members in UC-

"Theater is a great way to entertain and bring varied people together," Addison said.

Fisher, a doctoral student at UC Berkeley, has been credited with the revival of Cal's theater program, and garnered a lot of at-tention on campus from both his irreverent *The Joy of Gay Sex* and *Medea: The Musical*, Addison

"He was able to get backing to move them to San Francisco for several successful runs," noted Ad-

Addison said the reception

"John was articulate and clever. He brought three cast members with him and they discussed their experiences with the



Director and playwright John Fisher (The Joy of Gay Sex) speaks at UCGALA reception.

show and how it's gay-related,"

He said about \$300 was raised for the alumni scholarship fund and CAA's gay/lesbian/bisexual

mentorship program.

"I've had several mentees [sic] over the past years, and I've enjoyed getting to know them, creating friendships that continue to endure, providing some help, and being a role model – perhaps during the interest of the providing that is the state of the providing that is the past years and I've enjoyed getting to know them.

ing their college coming out process," Addison said.

He added, "The students amaze me and I often wonder who is the mentee and who is the mentor. Even though I was student body president, I wasn't comfortable with coming out

while on campus."

Addison, who graduated from Cal in 1983, coordinated the "Bay

Area Angels Program," which brought local AIDS organizations together with the American Con-servatory Theater as part of their

highly successful outreach program for Angels in America.

UCGALA provides a way for graduates to stay connected to Cal, and also raises important scholarship funds, Addison said. Past programs of UCGALA have included initiating the gay/lesbian/bisexual mentorship pro-gram, picnics, dinners, holiday parties, dance programs, swim parties, art exhibits, and numerous theater parties throughout the Bay Area. ▼

For more information on UCGALA, call (415) 267-3150. Membership dues are \$20.

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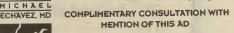
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Mel White to preach, show video at MCC SF this Sunday

by Cynthia Laird

he Reverend Dr. Mel White, author, gay rights activist, and former ghostwriter for the radical right, will be speaking at Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco on Sun-

day, June 9.

In addition to preaching at MCC's 11 a.m. worship service, White will be showing a video entitled *The Rhetoric of Intolerance* at 1 p.m. The video shows clips of Pat Robertson's anti-gay and inflammatory rhetoric that have been broadcast nationally on television.

White is MCC's minister of justice, working with churches and communities around the nation that are facing challenges from the right wing. He is also the author of Stranger at the Gate: To Be Gay and Christian in America, a book that chronicles his own journey to reconcile his faith and his sexuality.

Born into a conservative Christian home and educated in conservative Christian schools and churches, White is particular-ly qualified to speak and write about the issues of homosexuality and Christianity. He worked with conservative Christian churches as a filmmaker and writer, and eventually became a ghostwriter of books, autobiographies, and speeches for such noted figures in the religious right as Robertson, Jerry Falwell, and Billy Graham

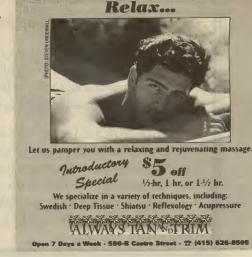
Now, White is known for his

confrontations last year with Robertson, his former employer. White was arrested and jailed for attempting to speak with Robertson at his offices at the Christian

Broadcast Network (CBN).
White remained in prison until he was able to speak with Robertson and urge him to drop his inflammatory rhetoric aimed at lesbians and gays. He has continued to challenge the actions and speech of right-wing Christians.

MCC San Francisco is located at 150 Eureka Street. The June 9 worship service is at 11 a.m., White's video showing is at 1 p.m. Both events are free and open to all.

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Hardwood floors in the living and dining rooms are a plus when selling a home. If the builder's standard flooring for the foyer is linoleum, it is definitely worth changing to wood or ceramic. And even if you don't enjoy sitting around a roaring fire-place, the next owner may want one. If you plan to finish the basement later, you may want to "rough-in" the plumbing for a bath during the original construction. You should consider your own enjoyment-and what will increase the value of your home when you sell.

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New supes take office

by Cynthia Laird

ewly appointed San Francisco Supervisors Leslie Katz and the Reverend Amos Brown were sworn into of-fice Wednesday, May 29, and told an overflow crowd in the Board of Supervisors' chambers they will work to be accessible and repre-sent all citizens in the city, including the lesbian/gay/bisexual com-

Mayor Willie Brown told the mayor willie Brown tool the audience at the swearing-in cere-mony that his appointments, in-cluding openly lesbian Andrea Shorter to replace openly lesbian Katz on the Community College

Katz on the Community College District Board [see accompanying story, this page], will maintain city government's diversity.

"Twe chosen these three people because they represent a balance this city needs," the mayor said.

"I've tried to think of balanced representation for this city and involvement of new people."

volvement of new people."

The mayor and Reverend
Brown are not related.

"I pledge to work hard, to be accessible, to listen to all sides, and make decisions with integrity," Katz said. She also said she's mindful of

the legacy left by other gay and

Thrill of the new: (I to r) Leslie Katz, Rev. Amos Brown and Andrea Shorter were all sworn into office May 29 by Mayor Willie Brown.

lesbian leaders who have served on the Board of Supervisors, in-cluding the late Harvey Milk, Harry Britt, and Roberta Achten-berg. Katz added she's honored to work with the current gay members of the board, Tom Ammiano and Susan Leal.

and Susan Leal.

Reverend Brown said he is proud of his appointment, and although he does not expect a "honeymoon" period, he will work hard with other board

"I expect to be ultimately swayed by the spirit of compassion," Brown said after being sworn in. "Only when we serve the needs of all can we work for the highest good of all."

The mayor cited Reverend Brown's work in religion and community activism, and said the senior pastor of the 3,000-mem-ber Third Baptist Church in the Western Addition has "impecca-ble credentials."

However, in an ironic twist, Reverend Brown was named, along with Third Baptist, in a civil suit brought by a Daly City woman who was the church choir leader and organist. The lawsuit charges that Ann Foster-Flynn, the former acting musical direc-

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Andrea Shorter sworn in on college board

by Cynthia Laird

penly lesbian juvenile jus-tice advocate Andrea Short-er was sworn in by Mayor Willie Brown as a member of the board of trustees of the San Fran-

or Wednesday, May 29.

The mayor praised Shorter and told the crowd at the ceremony in the Board of Supervisors' chambers that she is like his

"She is independent and demanding," Brown said of Shorter.
"But with Andrea it's confidence, not arrogance. I see in Andrea the quality of leadership."

Shorter replaces former com-

munity college trustee Leslie Katz, who was sworn in last week by the mayor as a supervisor along with

Reverend Amos Brown.
Shorter is the director of juve nile programs and policy for the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, a San Francisco-based nonprofit public policy agency fo-cused on alternatives to incarcer-

She is on the board of directors for the city chapter of the National Organization for Women, where she serves as chair of San Francisco NOW's political action committee. Additionally, Shorter is a member of the Harvey Milk

is a member of the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democrat-ic Club and president of the George Wiley Democratic Club. "I gladly and proudly accept to serve as a trustee of City College as an advocate of the city's youth," Shorter said in a brief speech fol-lowing the ceremony. "Perhaps at no other time has the college dis-trict been poised to lead. "That vision is also about in-

trict been poised to lead.

"That vision is also about inclusion and diversity," she added.
The newly named community college board member noted that all groups, including the African-American, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities,

need to work together.

"Whoever we are, we must continue to work tirelessly," Shorter said. "In a Democratic society we cannot settle for less."

Shorter said the diversity of the

City College district is a strength, and said she will help further a steadfast course for the city's edu-

cational endeavors.

She is a co-founder and direcsine is a co-toilider and inter-tor of the Right to Vote Cam-paign, a broad-based coalition ef-fort involving 25 organizations to register incarcerated voters. Shorter is also an executive board member of the Coalition

for an African-American Agenda, a local civil rights group focused on increasing voter participation among African-American, low income, and public housing resi-

A native of Indianapolis, Indiana, Shorter is a 1988 graduate of Whittier College, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in sociology with honors.

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Victory Fund holds reception for gay SF judge-elect

by Cynthia Laird

he Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund held a reception in San Thursday, Francisco last May 30 to honor Superior Court Judge-elect Kevin McCarthy, and

to raise local money and support. The Victory Fund is the only national organization dedicated and lesbian candidates to all levels of public office. Formed in May 1991, it has grown into the nation's 15th largest independent political action committee, with more than 3,500 members nationwide. The bipartisan organization has contributed over \$1.2 million directly to the campaigns of qualified openly gay and les-bian candidates.

McCarthy was the beneficiary of Victory Fund support, and he told the gathering of about 20 peo-

ple that he received much more than just financial assistance.

"Not only did I get financial support, I got strategic support," he said.

The recently elected judge to San Francisco Superior Court will take office in January. McCarthy easily ousted incumbent Superior Court Judge Doug Moore, a Re-Publican appointee of Governor Pete Wilson, in the March 26 primary election. He is the first openly gay man ever elected to Superior Court in California.

McCarthy explained that when he decided to run, he needed fundraising advice and did not have a lot of time.

"I contacted the Victory Fund. They understood the importance of it [the campaign] and I got the endorsement," he said, adding that he also got campaign contri-butions from across the country, including Vermont, New York, and Florida.

"It's an invaluable asset," he

Candidate training

San Francisco Supervisor Leslie Katz, who was sworn into office Wednesday, May 29 after being appointed by Mayor Willie Brown, also told the crowd the Victory Fund has helped her. Katz said her benefits weren't financial, but she attended valuable candidate training sponsored by the

"It was some of the best train-ing I've seen," Katz said. "They explain how to run as an openly gay



Superior Court Judge-elect Kevin McCarthy (left) with Supe Leslie Katz: "Not only did I get financial support, I got strategic support."

candidate, how to address ques-

candidate, how to address questions, and how to put together funding."

Katz's other experience with the Victory Fund was last June, when she and other gay officials went to Washington DC to meet with various political leaders, including Vice President Al Gore.

The meeting became known as

The meeting became known as e "blue glove incident" because of U.S. Secret Service personnel who wore latex gloves as they came into contact with the gay leaders. In April 1996, the director of the Secret Service sent letters to the lesbian and gay visitors in which he frankly apologized for the incident

"It was quite an eye-opener to learn what candidates face in other parts of the country," Katz

Jay Flagg, director of development for the Victory Fund, of the B.A.R. one of the goals of the reception was to look into form ing a steering committee of local gay and lesbian community mem-bers. Flagg, who works out of the

organization's Washington D.C. office, is from San Francisco.
"I'm here to get to know peo

ple, and to get people interested and active again," Flagg told the B.A.R. "Our mission is simple. There is no other organization doing what we do."

Flagg noted that San Francis-co's gay and lesbian community has benefited from the Victory Fund, as several candidates have been elected to local and state offices here. They include Mc-Carthy, supervisors Tom Ammi-ano and Susan Leal, and Assemblywoman Carole Migden.
In urging a more visible role ir

San Francisco, Flagg emphasized he feels the gay and lesbian com-munity is its own best friend.

"The only ones we can rely on, I conclude, are our own," he said. Flagg also said electing quali-fied gay and lesbian candidates to state and national offices is a high

priority.
"Otherwise," he said, "all our successes locally will be wiped out." ▼





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Emotional moment: Prior to the June 2 kickoff of California AIDS Ride 3, cyclist Jonathan Bitler tears up during the always affecting riderless cycle ceremony. The more than 2,000 participants in this year's ride are expected to reach LA Saturday, June 8, raising over \$6 million for the SF AIDS Foundation and the LA Gay and Lesbian Center in the process.

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AIDS at 15

◀ page 1

Over the next few years, as AIDS swept across the country, the gay community started putting away the "If I can't dance, it's not my revolution" T-shirts and started putting on fundraising events, condoms, and protests

A decade and a half later, the disease has built the resolve of the gay and lesbian community, and torn it apart; it has taught the world much about virology and immunology, and robbed it of many of its best and brightest minds; it has created leaders, and

destroyed them.

And it is nowhere near over This June 5th, the Bay Area Re-Porter asked some people to reflect on the milestone and share their thoughts as AIDS turns 15.

Here is what some had to say:

This anniversary is a necessary reminder, an opportunity – even when we don't want one – to confront our grief, our fear, and our anger, and to take stock of all the work that needs to be done, both in our own lives and as a commu

nity.

It's hard to keep up the fight.

It's hard to maintain hope. But we don't really have any choice other than to strengthen our commitment, our humanity, and our

— Gay and Lesbian Medical Association President Ben Schatz

On the 15th anniversary of the horrendous HIV epidemic, I am remembering the thousands of friends and loved ones we have lost. So many people who died from AIDS were terrific people who died too soon, and people who died too soon, and whose absence has diminished our world. People are not replaceable, and the energy and talents of those we have lost are not things we can do without. One of the important things to remember is that many of the people who have died suffered not only the dieease of HIV but. not only the disease of HIV, but also the disease of discriminaalso the disease of discrimina-tion. The early years of the epi-demic produced rampant dis-crimination, and scores of gay men, especially, called us at the Human Rights Commission say-ing they couldn't get hired any-where or had been fired from their jobs because of the astheir jobs because of the as-sumption that all gay men had AIDS. Though this situation has improved, discrimination against people with HIV contin-ues, and we must be vigilant in

recognizing it and responding strongly to it, and in assuring that people with HIV be able to continue working and living their lives free of discrimination.

- SF Human Rights Commissioner Larry Brinkin

In 1980, I remember sitting next to a man in a straight bar who was getting quite drunk and identified himself, with picture ID, as a government agent. He was hitting on me and seemed to be in the closet. At the end of the evening, before I left, he cried out to me to move away from San Francisco. I asked him why and he warned me, "The experiment in sexual freedom is over, move away sexual freedom is over, move away or die." When I asked him repeatedly how we were all to die, his answer finally came, "There will be a disease, a terrible disease!" They knew.

- AIDS activist Jeff Getty

15 years seems at first like an elusive measure, but then I start elusive measure, but then I start seeing the faces of so many friends and loved ones. I think of Bobbi Campbell, one of the first, I think of the denial, then the panic, the attempts to educate, the rage I feel, the inadequacy, the struggle against self-pity, the small steps against self-pity, the small steps forward, the incredible tensile strength of my community, the dignity of my dying lover, the ability to laugh at our foibles, and then I feel support and I feel hope, go ahead, take your best shot, there is a future, and there is a fight, and we won't break a nail.

SF Supervisor Tom Ammiano

It is important that we not become complacent as the epidemic continues as a daily part of our existence. We will defeat this pandemic only if we remain commit-ted, enraged, and vigilant in fighting the stigmas surrounding AIDS, prevent discrimination, en-sure HIV/AIDS education for our youth, and demand treatments and a cure.

> Assemblywoman Carole Migden

Fifteen years into the epidemic, we have far to go regarding women and HIV. Unbelievably, it took us until 1993 to change the definition of AIDS so that women's manifestations of the disease were acknowledged. Still, in 1996, women affected by HIV are struggling to have their health and civil liberties taken seriously by both policymakers and the AIDS community. In addition, the HIV risks for women who have sex with women continue to be alarmingly ignored and unex-

> Women's AIDS Network Public Policy Director Eileen Hansen

In 15 years, more than half a million Americans have been struck by AIDS. Already more than 300,000 men, women, and children in this country have lost their lives to this epidemic. AIDS has taken too many friends, relatives, and loved ones from every one of us. It has shaken the faith of many, but it has also instilled a remarkable community spirit. Our goals are simple but fundamental: to fight for a cure and a vaccine; to provide compassionate and loving care to all those who live with AIDS; and to seek new ways to reduce the number of people who are infected until there are none.

> - National Office of AIDS Director Patsy Fleming

It is difficult to look back at the past 15 years of the HIV crisis without feeling a deep and over-whelming sense of disappoint-ment, loss, and anger. Because our government chose not to act with integrity and compassion early in the fight against HIV, thousands upon thousands of lives have been lost needlessly. And the suffering continues And the suffering continues today, as does the government neglect. In recent months, new gains in the treatment of HIV, particu-larly the emergence and approval of protease inhibitors, have raised or protease innibitors, nave raised new hopes for slowing the pro-gression of HIV and extending the lives of people with HIV/AIDS. Such progress and hope, however, will mean nothing hope, however, will mean nothing if adequate government funding is not available for programs such as the Ryan White CARE Act, AIDS Drug Assistance Program, and Medicaid, all of which provide critical financial support for HIV medical care and therapies. Currently, HIV care, prevention, and research programs are extremely vulnerable to the budget-cutting axes in Washington D.C. cutting axes in Washington D.C. and Sacramento.

and sacramento.

More to the point, after 15 years of untold human suffering caused by HIV, our so-called political leaders at the state and federal levels continue to demon strate the same degree of fear, ignorance, hate, and homophobia that so effectively fueled the epidemic 15 years ago. Our challenge and commitment at the San Fran-cisco AIDS Foundation is to not

next page

AIDS at 15

previous page

allow the fear and hate to claim another human life

— SF AIDS Foundation Executive Director Pat Christen

We have learned so much about HIV in these 15 years since the first AIDS case was reported. Unfortunately, we haven't learned enough. We need better treat-ments and more effective prevention interventions to prevent new infections.

— SF Department of Public Health AIDS Office Director Mitch Katz

We have reclaimed the word "queer" and the pink triangle. We must now rename the disease A.I.D.S., "Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome," to reflect what it was 15 long years ago, and still is in America—G.R.I.D., "Gay-Related Immune Deficiency." If we opt to reclaim A.I.D.S./G.R.I.D. as gay genocide, we may then finally have penile and anal condoms distributed by the San Francisco Health Department in the bars on Cas tro Street and South of Market, not to mention gay male sex clubs and all outdoor cruising areas. We might also demand the Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention Branch of the Na-tional Institutes of Health finally study gay male sex practices in order to design effective safe sodomy education programs. In-



Work that body: Dancers at the Edge nightclub in Palo Alto shook for all they were worth June 1 despite the heat. The event, Key to the Cure Dance-A-Thon, raised \$8,000 for various AIDS charities, and everyone reportedly had a great if exhausting time.

credible as it may seem, the NIH, even under President Bill Clin-ton's direction, has yet to conton's direction, has yet to conduct a single gay male rectal study, even though gay male anal sex is the easiest mode of A.I.D.S./G.R.I.D. transmission. My biggest fear today about A.I.D.S./G.R.I.D. is that we will one day look back on the past 15 years as only the beginning of this gay genocide with the worst

yet to come.

- AIDS activist Michael Petrelis

AIDS is here to stay. As prospects for a cure or vaccine seem remote, preventing HIV and helping people stay uninfected take on even greater importance. spread of AIDS. We need to start doing it.

Fifteen years have seen the AIDS epidemic grow from a gay man's disease to everyone's prob-lem. It is a disease that holds a magnifying glass to some of America's ugliest social problems, such as homophobia, drug use, such as homophobia, drug use, poverty, and racism. After 15 years of the AIDS epidemic it is no longer acceptable to say that Americans are uncomfortable dealing with drug use and sexuality. And it is no longer acceptable to call for more studies or government concerned reported the process of the process ment-sponsored reports, when the prescription for saving lives is clear.

- UCSF Center for AIDS Prevention Studies Director Thomas Coates, Ph.D.







Mark Denzin, L.Ac. Licensed Acupuncturist Physician of Chinese Medicine 415-252-9040

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DoMA

◄ page 1

might get the proper hearing."

Zingale admits that Clinton's statements have "hurt us a lot."

Most of the gay and lesbian community's strongest allies in the Senate are his supporters. "So when you have Bill Clinton come out and eave essentially "I want this." out and say essentially, 'I want this bill; send it to me so I can sign it,' it makes it very difficult to per-suade those folks to go to extraor-dinary measures."

dinary measures."

He is urging Senator John Kerry (D-Massachusetts) to take the lead on this issue, "to further distinguish himself from Governor [William] Weld," the popular pro-gay Republican who is chal-

lenging Kerry for the Senate seat. President Clinton's announce-

ment that he would sign DoMA if it reached his desk continues to have repercussions across the nation. Almost immediately the HRC's host committee in San Francisco disinvited White House

Francisco disinvited White House aide George Stephanopoulos as keynote speaker to their June 15 fundraising dinner.

In Seattle, Tina Podlodowski, a lesbian member of the city council, resigned as Washington state co-chair of Clinton's re-election campaign. She told the New York Times, "I knew he disagreed with me, I can accept that. But he didn't have to stick his finger in my eye."

eye."
The White House and the Democratic National Committee continue to receive negative phone calls. Some of the anger is also directed against HRC for its continued support of Clinton,

whom the group endorsed for re-election in February.

The National Gay and Lesbian
Task Force (NGLTF) has been
evenhanded in its criticism. It
lambasted Republican support of
DOMA, which "manipulates and
exploits people's fears and igno-rance about gay people and gay
families." It also deplored Clin-ton's position, which has "given
support and momentum to the support and momentum to the efforts and agenda" of right-wing

NGLTF field organizer Tracey
Conaty is urging the community "to crank up the volume" to your elected officials. The Task Force has a hotline (1-800-651-1482), nas a notific (1-500-051-1402), where for a total of \$9.95 you can send telegrams to your congressman, both senators, and the president, urging them to oppose DoMA. ▼

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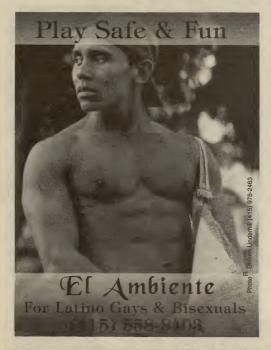
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Waste not, die not

by Stephen LeBlanc and Rob Sabados, ACT UP/ Golden Gate Writers Pool

ore and more people with AIDS are beginning to re-alize what some activists and more aggressive HIV-doctors have been saying for years: un-wanted weight loss (wasting) is not an inevitable consequence of AIDS. Many PWAs with even serious weight loss can regain and maintain a near normal weight

maintain a near normal weight and have a good quality of life with effective treatment. Wasting generally is defined as an unwanted weight loss often ex-perienced by people with HIV in-fection. It can be gradual, pro-gressive, and unstoppable without treatment. But with effective treatment, people who are wasting can regain and maintain their normal weight and have a good quality of life, possibly indefinitely. Yet, wasting remains a leading cause of death to people with AIDS even though it is becoming clear that many wasting deaths were and are preventable with long-available drugs. PWAs can experience two dif-ferent types of unwanted weight

loss: rapid and extreme weight loss, which is often associated with opportunistic infections, and long-term gradual weight loss that resists efforts to treat it with attention to diet. PWAs often find attention to diet. PWAs often find that when weight is lost due to opportunistic infections, it is very difficult to put back on. For this reason, both types of weight loss

require aggressive treatment.

Treatments for wasting generally fall into three categories: nutritional and exercise counseling; treatments primarily designed to stimulate appetite, such as marijuana, marinol, or megace; and hormonal treatments designed to build lean body mass. A fourth type of treatment, thalidomide, is thought to interfere with and pre-vent the metabolic dysfunction that can lead to wasting and is reported effective for some people.

Members of ACT UP/Golden
Gate know from happy expe-

rience that hormonal treatment for wasting can be an absolute life-saver. ACT UP/Golden Gate mem ber Jeff Getty, well-known recipient of the ba-boon bone marrow transplant, attributes his survival to receiving **ACT UP** hormonal treatments

for wasting. "About two years ago, I realized, after nutwo years ago, I realized, after numerous comments from friends about me looking thin, that I was starting to waste," reports Getty, "I had been really careful about my nutrition, was taking vitamins, eating well, being very careful about opportunistic infections, but still was losing weight." Getty began taking recombinant Human Growth Hormone, one hormonal treatment for wasting, hormonal treatment for wasting, and began seeing results. Without hormonal treatment for wasting, Getty reports, "I wouldn't have been around to do the transplant I'd be long dead.

While use of nutritional therapy and appetite stimulants is non-controversial among doctors, many doctors are very reluctant to prescribe aggressive hormonal treatments for wasting. Activists who have studied wasting treatments are skeptical of the benefits of appetite stimulating treatments, because there is evidence that much of the weight gained is fat and water weight and Megace in particular seems to interfere with normal male hormonal

One reason for doctors' reluctioning.

One reason for doctors' reluctance to prescribe hormonal therapy is that effective drugs for wasting often are some of the same drugs used by athletes and bodybuilders for the last several decades to increase strength and muscle mass. This is quite natural, as ath-letes use these drugs

exactly because they are highly effective at increasing are nignly effective at increasing lean body composition, and these drugs as a class have been unfair-ly demonized in the "war against drugs." While excessive use of steroids is not recommended for PWAs because there is evidence it suppresses the immune system and can increase viral load, medical use of steroids seems indicat-ed for PWAs who have wasting that does not quickly respond to other treatments. Some steroids legally available by prescription, such as nandralone and oxan-drolone, have been safely and effectively used to ward off wasting

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For more information CALL Dorie Heeren, R.N. at (415) 476-9296 ext. 305

ACTG 283

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Study Requirements:

- T cells more than 200.
- Stable on antiretroviral therapy, or no antiretroviral therapy.
- Current use of protease inhibitors not allowed.
- Other restrictions, call for more info

\$400 payment for completion of study.

For more information CALL David Gary, R.N. at (415) 476-9296 ext. 354 associated with other diseases for

decades.

The reluctance of doctors to prescribe steroids or hormones when indicated for PWAs with wasting seems to be lifting in areas with more advanced AIDS care, like San Francisco. A relatively large number of HIV-specialist doctors in that city are using recombinant human growth hor-mone, testosterone, or legally pre-scribable steroids to treat wasting. None of the drugs are strictly FDA approved yet for treating HIV-related wasting, but they are available and legal for doctors to use take advantage of newly available anti-viral treatments. "I was seanti-viral treatments. "I was severely wasted two years ago, with very low T-cells," reports Matthew Sharp, an ACT UP member and director of the Healing Alternatives Foundation. "Growth hormone, diet, and weight training reversed my wasting and allowed me to regain my health within just a month or two and now I've sur-vived long enough to start Crixivived long chough to start Crixivan six months ago. I feel better today than I have in several years. My immune system is back were it was in 1991, and with my T-cells on the rise, I've noticed minor

Effective wasting treatment shows results quickly, with many patients reporting weight gains to near normal in 2-4 weeks and reporting weight gains during the first two weeks of therapy of up to 1/2 pound per day.

off-label to treat wasting due to chronic infection such as HIV.

Another roadblock that wasting PWAs encounter is the "wait and see" approach adopted by many doctors (particularly at HMOs). Sometimes it seems that doctors believe their patients just aren't "trying hard enough" to put weight back on. Doctors often delay beginning or switching treatments for weeks on end while

treatments for weeks on end while urging their patients to eat more. This strategy is doomed to fail in patients experiencing chronic wasting and may place patients at unnecessary risk from extended periods with reduced weight. Effective wasting treatment shows results quickly, with many patients reporting weight gains to near normal in 2-4 weeks and reporting weight gains during the first two weeks of therapy of up to 1/2 pound per day.

A final reason that both patient and doctors are reluctant to acknowledge and treat AIDS associated weightloss is that wasting is

acknowledge and treat AIDS asso-ciated weightloss is that wasting is presumed by many people to be an "end-stage" AIDS condition, with a hopeless outcome. Un-treated, it certainly is. People who lose and don't regain around 5% of their ideal body weight have a poorer chance of doing well when any other challenges to their health come along, and people with more than 30% body weight loss are at an extremely high risk loss are at an extremely high risk of dying from wasting itself.

Treated, however, people who were experiencing even serious wasting two years ago are alive now, with a good quality of life, and have survived long enough to AIDS symptoms like warts, fungal infections, and chronic fever, have

disappeared.
Patients who think they may Patients who think they may be losing weight or who know they are wasting need to carefully check for opportunistic infections that can cause weight loss such as MAC or intestinal parasites or cancer. They also should meet with a nutritionist and evaluate their food intake, exercise, and use of vitamins Finally and most implied to the control of the of vitamins. Finally, and most importantly, they should talk with their doctor about their doctor's their doctor about their doctor's willingness to use effective hormone or steroid therapy if changes in diet do not produce desired results in a short time (like 3-4 weeks). Patients should (like 3-4 weeks). Patients should resist the tendency for reluctant doctors to ask them to just "keep trying" to gain weight. Desired weight gain should be achievable quickly. If no results are seen with nutritional therapy or appetite stimulants in 3-4 weeks, and if OIs (including cancer) are ruled out, patients with serious wasting should demand hormonal treatment. If their doctor is resistant to ment. If their doctor is resistant to using effective hormone or steroid therapy, patients should consider finding a different doc-

There are problems regarding price and access to all of the available hormonal and steroid treatments for wasting that must be addressed by PWAs and AIDS activists and that will be addressed in future articles and actions by ACT UP/Golden

NOWLEDGE IS POWER.

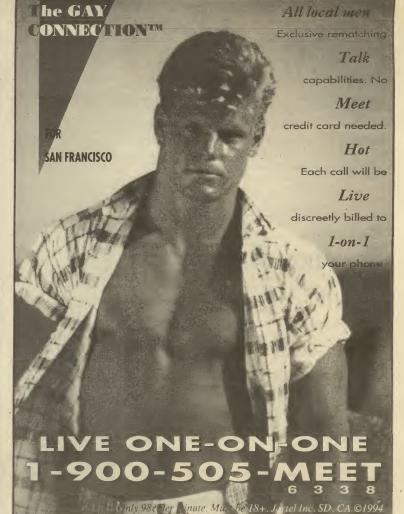


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WHAT YOU CA

No time to waste

People with serious wasting don't have time to wait for all the issues to be resolved, and should demand treatment now.

• More information about wasting and wasting treatments is available from the Project Inform hotline at 415-558-9051 or from ACT UP/Golden Cate at 415-252-9200.

• People interested in receiving oxandralone, one effective and legally available (by prescription) steroid treatment for wasting, can call the drug's distributor at 1-800-741-2698 for information.

• People who want to find out information about doctors in the

Bay Area who have a good reputation for aggressively treating wasting can stop by the Healing Alternatives Foundation and review their physician's reference book. Call 415-626-4053 for

view unerr physician's reference book. Call 415-626-4053 for times and availability.

People interested in lowering the cost and expanding access to reatments for wasting are invited to an ACT UP/Golden Gate meeting, Tuesday nights at 7:30 at 592B Castro Street (corner of 19th).

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Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Jose T. Alvarado Oct. 27, 1957 - May 21, 1996



For all who knew Jose, knew of his big heart. His lifetime goal was to help others be happy, in return that would make his life fulfilled. Jose passed peacefully at home, with his partner of 12 years, family with warmth and love as he always did.

Even in the world after this world, we will be together. Two magical beings of light and air, dancing through the heavens, shaking the stars free from the night sky. Even in the life beyond this life, where a billion souls free-fall through the universe, I will come and I will find you. Until we meet again, always remember... I love you.
Jose will be missed by his parents, Joe and Hope; brother and sisters, Ruben, Yolanda, Sylvia and Yvonne; all of his wonderful friends; and most of all his soulmate and lifetime partner, Ron Alvarez, Jose will always remain in our hearts and prayers.

Garry Braid 1960 - 1996



Garry Braid died peacefully from complications of AIDS at the home of friends on Saturday, June 1. Born in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and raised in South Africa, Garry discovered his gift for ice skating at age 9 and began competing at 12. He joined Holiday on Ice while still in his teens and toured throughout Europe and Israel. He settled in San Francisco in the early 1980s, worked in travel and real estate, and with his lover of over a dleade, Brian Natale, was seen in full leather at The Eagle and Watering Hole. Garry returned to skating in 1994, winning a silver medal at the Gay Games in New York. He went on to win a gold medal at the 1995 Winter Games in Seattle.

Childlike and uninhibited, Garry cherfully allowed, "I was always taken care of by my parents, Holiday on Ice or Brian." By the time of his death, however, Garry had taken complete charge of his life; powerful and transcendent, he left this world very much on his own terms. Garry is survived by his parents, Barbra Braid and Bill Braid, and brothers, Robert and Darrell.

Memorial party: Saturday, June 8, 4127 20th Street, 2-5 p.m.

Stuart Fitzer

Stuart Fitzer, a longtime resident of Francisco, died February 29 after a





16-year battle with AIDS. Stuart came to San Francisco in 1973 from New York City with his partner, Mark Fieldman. Mark was among the first group of men to contract the AIDS

wirus in San Francisco in 1979.
After Mark's death in 1982, Stuart dedicated his life to caring for and supporting other PLWAs on a one-to-one basis. He continued this work until 1994, when his health would no longer

permit 1.

Stuart was comptroller and manager of the Gift Center of San Francisco until he retired in 1992. He moved to Fort Lauderdale in 1995, where he purchased a waterfront home. He was active in the community up until three days before his nassing.

community up until three days before his passing. Stuart was surrounded by family and friends at the time of his passing. In keeping with his wishes, his ashes were returned to San Francisco on May 26 and scattered under the Golden Gate and scattered under the Golden Gate Bridge. In attendance were his brother, Gilbert; sister, Sharon Rachel; and long-time friends, Thomas O'Donald; Frank Wooley and John Flynn. Donations in Stuart's memory may be made to: Powerello AIDS Food Bank, 2230 Wilton Dr., Wilton Manors, FL 33305.

Robert Jones

We will all miss Robert, especially those of us at Hamburger Mary's. He always came to work with a smile and a new hat to wear on the line. He wasn't a

mays came to work with a smile and a new hat to wear on the line. He wasn't a cheft, he was a cook.

Robert was the best – clean, folded apron on, ready to go with spatula in hand. He performed easily over a hot grill, always smiling that smile. He loved it when it got busy and the music got louder over the crowd of people that would come to eat his cooking.

Robert found his way to his beloved home of San Francisco from Houston, Texas. It must have been too slow a pace for him back in Texas because Robert liked to go fast! Whether it be on the cook's line or on his motorcycle, Robert could keep up with any speed given to him.

him.

Even up to his untimely death,
Robert lived his life to the fullest. He
was loved by all, from the janitor to the
customer to the postman, but especially
by his friends here at Mary's.

Jerry Law February 10, 1996



On February 10, Jerry Law peacefully left this world and his most beloved city of San Francisco. No words can express the joy and love he brought to anyone who knew him. His

and his warmth will be sorely missed.

Jerry touched the lives of so many

people. He will be especially missed by lifelong friends, Jerry and Don.

I have had the pleasure of knowing this man for almost 14 years. All who loved you hope that you are now finally at peace. I used to call him "Grandpa" – always willing to listen or to give you a hug. He was a master at making you feel

special.
We're so glad you were one of
"Dorothy's Friends." No donations are
necessary, and no memorial service was
held. If you knew Jerry: Go out and buy
a Sunday paper, have a cigarette, and
watch reruns of his favorite show, Murder, She Wrote. I will always miss you
Jerry, Love, Charles

Scott McDowell 1966 – 1996

Scott Andrew McDowell, 29, of 529
Chesterfield Rd., Oakdale, Conn., died recently at the Connecticut Hospice, Branford, Conn., after a long illness.
He was born April 18, 1966, in New London, Conn., the son of William J. and Rosemarie H. Gaebler McDowell Jr. of Oakdale.

of Oakdale.

Mr. McDowell graduated in 1984
from St. Bernard High School. He be-longed to St. John the Evangelist
Church. He was well-known for his

Church. He was well-known for ms glass etching. Besides his parents, Mr. McDowell is survived by one brother, Marine Sgt. Christopher W. McDowell, and one sis-ter, Karen A. Long of North Stonington. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 125 Shaw St., New London or the Connecticut Hos-pice, 61 Burban St., Branford.

Paul Charles Robbins



His few years were filled with an incredible love of life, which flowed in an inerhaustible stream of joy to his family and friends. From dry soil, he raised warm and spirit-renewing gardens; from this nir, he captured spectacular beauty in photographs; from a city of strangers, he gathered a family of loving friends.

Out of his soul grew the exquisite images he called Ruby Cards and the annual Halloween Screams video, a celebration of his glorious and warped friends with their imaginations set free. And from that same soul came the tenderness and caring that touched the lives of so many, and brought comfort to those who left this world before him. His energy was as boundless as his love, and our strongest memories will be of his laughter and his bright blue eyes.

Those entrusted with his memories

be of his laugnter and his oright of use eyes.

Those entrusted with his memories are: his loving and absolutely dedicated husband, Greg; the morn he loved so much; his brothers and sisters, Mike, pick, John, Robbi, Thom, Marti, Maggie and Mark; his dearest friends, Cheryl, Lawrence, Dickie, Sandy, Dana, Charlie, Eddie and all the Davids; and piece. Amy.

niece, Amy.

He danced his way through life.

Now he dances with the angels.

Waggi Schwrtzina Feb. 7, 1950 - May 28, 1996



Waggi died of AIDS at home, holding hands with his lover, Jim. Waggi's lover of 16 years, Dede, died six years ago.

waggi s lover of 16 years, Dede, died six years ago.
Waggi is survived by his loving parents, Maria and Joseff, a brother in Bavaria; and by lovers, Jim and Buddy, and their dog Butch in SF.
Waggi's life was full of courage, strong will, hard work and loving relationships. He worked in Germany as a paramedic, salesman and counselor. He met Dede. They forged a long-lasting, loving partnership and were active in German gay and motorcycle clubs.
Waggi decided to move to SF, where he felt so free. Dede agreed, and with hard work, they operated the popular German Oak Restaurant. They owned a refrigeration repair company, which Waggi continued after Dede's death.
Waggi met his current lover-lim.

which waggi continued the continued waggi's lower as feer Dede's death. Waggi's love was steadfast and strong, winning out over Jim's addiction. Their last years together were beautiful, filled with days of working together and loving companionship.

ing companionship.

There will be a celebration of
Waggi's life at 232 Guerrero St. on Sunday, June 9, 2-5 p.m. All who knew and
loved Waggi are invited to share their
grief and joy in knowing our beloved
Bavarian.

David Spada Dec. 5, 1961 - May 13, 1996

David Spada

Dec. 5, 1961 – May 13, 1996

David Spada, best known for creating the universal symbol of gay pride, Freedom Rings, died of AIDS May 13. He was 34 years old.

David was born and raised in Connecticut. After coming out, he moved to New York City to develop his own unique creative style. He was a graduate of Parson's School of Design.

David's greatest artistic contribution was to the gay community. Along with his business partner, Emilio Rodriguez, Spada created a sociological phenomenon – Freedom Rings – which became the international icon worn by hundreds of thousands of gay men, lesbians, and their straight friends and families. The six anodized aluminum rings in the colors of the rainbow on a simple dog tag chain became the symbol of unity, freedom and pride for gays everywhere.

Universal Spada helped revolutionize gay business practices by pioneering new standards for open marketing of gay products. In addition, Universal Spada became a prototype for other companies by donating a percentage of profits back to the community.

His friends and family request that Freedom Rings be worn by as many people as possible on Gay Pride Day this year, in his memory and the memory of all those we have lost.

Viral load test approved, offered free!

by UPI Science Writer Susan Milius

he makers of a viral load test approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration Monday, June 3 has offered free baseline tests to any HIV-infected person in the United States. The Amplicor HIV-1 Monitor

The Amplicor Hive I Monitor Test is the first approved test to measure the amount of virus in the blood, a level that many doc-tors now believe gives the best prediction of how fast the disease will progress. The makers, Roche Molecular Systems of Branch-burg, N.J., offered to test HIV- tion relied most heavily on other measures of disease progression, such as the levels of the immune system's CD4 T cells. However, during the past year, scientific pa-pers and presentations at confer-ences have suggested that the ac-tual level of virus in someone's blood gives a better hipt of how

Dr. Scott Hammer, who worked on AIDS clinical trials in Boston at Deaconess Hospital and Harvard Medical School, said, rarvard Medical School, said, "Clinical research continues to support using viral load as a key indicator in assessing the progres-sion of HIV disease."

A company statement predict-

blood gives a better hint of how sick that person is about to be. Dr. Scott Hammer, who

The test can measure the amount of virus in the blood more precisely than other technologies.

positive people free for 60 days,

positive people free for 60 days, starting June 17.

The Amplicor will be the first to use PCR technology, made famous in the O.J. Simpson trial, for monitoring the health of people infected with HIV, the AIDS virus. Other HIV tests do not check the viral level directly, but measure the antibodies that a person's immune system produces in response to infection.

"By amplifying genetic material from HIV-1, the virus that causes most U.S. AIDS cases, the test can measure the amount of virus in the blood more precisely than other approved technologies," said an FDA statement about Amplicor.

The FDA approved the Amplicor test for checking the progression of the disease, not for first-line screening for the virus nor for confirming infection.

Until a year or two ago, doctors monitoring a patient's condi-

ed that the test will help people decide whether their drugs are still stomping the virus or whether the time has come to switch.

The best way to use the test results remains an open question.
The FDA has demanded as a condition of approval that the test company study how doctors use

company study now doctors use the results.

David Barr, director of treat-ment education from Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, wel-comed the FDA decision. "It's going to mean that health insur-ance and Medicaid programs will be covering this – the approval opens the door." Insurance cover-age for the test, which so far has cost about \$150 to \$200, Barr said, will mean access for "many, many more people." ▼

For more information about free viral load testing, call 1-888-TEST-PCR

In loving memory of my best friend, companion, and lover of just over eight years that we had together, Dave Seibert.

A gentle, Ioving, and caring soul who came into my life when I needed him most. This remarkable man seldom asked much of anyone else, but he never hesitated to give when and where he felt the need the greatest. He obtained his Masters in Social Work in 1990 from Florida State University. He was a rabd Seminole 'Noler' fan and even turned me into one. Even before that remarkable achievement, he was involved in the fight for gay rights in Florida, being one of the many that took on Anita Bryant. From that he went on to help organize and setup the ALLANCE FOR GAY AWARENESS in Floridad which resulted in the first state wide conference. Dave served as chair and liaison between the gay/lesbian community and the university.

After obtaining his masters, he moved to New York Christian Control.

organize and setup the ALLIANCE FOR GAY MARKNESS IN Florida which resulted in the lirist state wide conference. Dave served as chair and liaison between the gay/lesbian community and the university.

After obtaining his masters, he moved to New York City in 1981, where he became very active in GMSMA as a volunteer furthering the gay rights movement. He was instrumental in helping to set up the GAY MENS HEALTH CRIBIS, which in part due to his skills, he counseled the first person with AIDS served by GMHC (although back then it was called GRIDS). He also organized and began training crisis intervention groups as well as the people who did individual counseling. For a time while in NYC, he also worked as the office manager and provided education and counseling at the St Mark's Clinic.

He left New York City for personal reasons in 1986, and found himself in Chicago. In Chicago he went to work at the COOK COUNTY HOSPITAL. There he started the first full man AIDS education, counseling, and antibody testing counseling to over 1000 persons. He set up and trained as well as supervised a staff of over 13 AIDS educations program at Chicago's only public hospital. He personally provided AIDS education, counselors, he set up and trained as well as supervised a staff of over 13 AIDS educations conselors. He set up and trained as well as supervised a staff of over 13 AIDS educations or conselors. He set up and trained as well as supervised a staff of over 13 AIDS educations or conselors. He set up and trained as well as supervised a staff of over 13 AIDS educations for the formation of the program of the program

months which allowed our relationship to cement and grow. He then resumed his fight against AIDS. Dave found employment at KAISER PERMANENTE MEDICAL CENTER in San Francisco doing what he liked best, organizing volunteers, giving counseling with testing, and some off ward in patient work. After a little over three years of work, Dave had to give up the work he so loved as the caregiver. He had come full circle and was now the patient. Even after having to stop working; he found time to give back to the community. He was a truly remarkable loving, caring, and giving man. I am proud, honored, and fortunate to have shared a precious gift of eight years of his life.

His extended family included his volunteers, all those he helped along the way, the Pocono Warriors, The 15 Association of SF, GMSMA or NYC, and the Chicago Hellfire Club.

Club.

Dave is survived by Paul Click his lover of 8 years, his parents Elmer & Vera, one brother and two sisters all of them except one reside now in Florida, and lastly our three cats, Raza, Bruno, and Honey (Honey was my Valentine's Day Gift this year, he picked her out but I have to wonder for whom?)

I feel as though my anchor has been cut, casting me adrift, but not before he had given me the skills and knowledge to find my way. Once again, he put someone else ahead of his own needs. I shall treasure all our memones, from our journey together.

May my gentle warfor continue to fight the good fight in the next plane of existence. Dave, my love. I will never forget you or our journey together, I miss you, God knows how I miss you and remember, always remember, I will always treasure and love you.

Finally, may you find peace, until our roads cross again as no doubt they are destined to do so. Safe journey until then.

Donations to the AIDS charity of your choice in his memory are preferred



David Dave P Seihert M.S.W.

> July 2, 1955 May 23, 1996



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State-sponsored snake oil

by Michael C. Botkin

elling phony cures for AIDS
– selling hope, really – is a
pretty low activity. Now, in
addition to numerous freelancers, we have a state-sponsored snake oil: Kenya's Pearl Omega formula. Its producer, Dr. Arthur Obel, claims that "some patients actu-ally tested negative after the treatment." But it has been denounced by both the local PWAs, who ac-cuse him of fleecing and have

WE

sued to stop distribution, and the Health Ministry, which recently banned it.

In many countries getting banned by the Health Ministry might be bad for business. Not so in Kenya. When dictator Daniel Arap Moi saw the big bucks Obel was raking in at his clinic, he took it over and made the clinic part of "the Office of the President," subject to his personal control. "They took over the distribution, the selling, the marketing," Obel has commented, perhaps ruefully.

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Auto-Immune Disorders

Some say Moi is building up a slush fund. Everyone knows he's making a mint off it, at \$545 for a 30-day treatment (\$5,000 for foreigners). So the Health Ministry can piss off, for all Moi cares. He needs the cash. His dictatorship heeds the cash. His dictatorship has become increasingly unpopu-lar, particularly his propensity to spend on showy toys to the detri-ment of roads, hospitals, etc. It was this weakness that prompted him to create an international scene by banning a gay group at a conference.

The resulting furor of homo-phobia, with Moi denouncing ho-mosexuality as an un-African, Western influence, did wonders for distracting Kenya from its

simmering anger at the dictator.

Dr. Obel also uses a smoke screen of Afrocentrism to promote his snake oil. He claims it's made from a rare tropical plant he learned about from his grandfa-ther, a traditional healer from western Kenya. He is also quick to mention that he comes from a long line of such healers, although he also trained in Western medicine. This hint of witch-doctor influence has great appeal to the Kenyan audience, which has tra-ditionally mistrusted Western medicine.

And in the case of AIDS, such doubts are particularly plausible. After all, if Western medicine doesn't do much and traditional medicine doesn't do much, you may as well stick with the devil you know, particularly since traditional medicine is so much to RECOGNIZE by Michael C. Batki 01996 WARNING SIGNS COSTS AN AWFUL LOT! CLAIMS TO BE BASED ON SECRET FORMULA! (WHY THE SECRECY?) PROMISES TO TURN YOU HIV NEGATIVE EMOTIONAL APPEALS E.G. HINTING AT "HOLISTIC IDEOLOGY

One wonders what Pea. Omega was used for besides AIDS. I mean, if grandpa made a note of it, he must have had it in mind for some particular use. And how long did Obel sit on this cure until it occurred to

him it was a cure?

These questions are likely to remain unanswered, as are more pragmatic ones like T-cell counts and viral load results, hings that things tha would indicate to an objective **Queer Watch** obsetver

vhether it's actu ally doing anything. Obel has only said "more research needs to be done" and claims that several patients have turned seronegative the classic line of the AIDS char-

Ride the gravy train

The discouraging thing is the number of willing suckers who line up to be fleeced. Kenya has a lot of AIDS – one in 26 of the population is believed to be HIV-positive – and not much available in the way of treatments. Poor peasants are trekking miles into Nairobi and spending their life's savings for Obel's cure, which at \$545 just about equals the average Kenyan annual income. And what's more, they thank him as he fleeces them, hailing him as a savior. I wonder if that's one of the draws that keeps Obel in this slimy game - that plus

the money, of course.

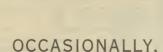
Pearl Omega itself is described as "a milky brown concoction ... in a wine bottle ... in a wine bottle
with a screw-off
cap." Using the
same distinction
used by U.S. vitamin
producers to
ward off FDA
supervision,
Obel claims that
his compound is

his compound is strictly a herbal preparation and, therefore, not a drug and not sub-ject to regulation. Although the local medical establishment believes that Obel is a fraud, they are powerless to stop him while he

powerless to solo film when he operates under the aegis of Moi.

But the customers are, after all, entirely voluntary. If they wish to choose Obel's cure, isn't that their right? Why should they choose to believe the Western medical types and not the traditional healer, who after all comes from a long line of healers? Plenty of PWAs here in the U.S. eschew tradition-al medicine and modern pharmacology, preferring holistic treat-

next page ▶





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Compassionate release bill easily passes in Assembly

by Cynthia Laird

ssembly Bill 3093, the comssembly Bill 3093, the compassionate release bill for terminally ill prisoners, including those with HIV/AIDS, overwhelmingly passed the state Assembly 62 to 6 with strong bipartisan support shortly after midnight on May 31.

The bill sponsored by Assemble 10 pages 10 page

The bill, sponsored by Assemblyman Antonio Villaraigosa, (D-Los Angeles), now goes to the state Senate's Criminal Proce-

state Senate's Criminal Procedures Committee.

Speaking for the compassionate release bill on the floor of the Assembly, Villaraigosa urged his colleagues to support a bill that is both "humane and fiscally smart." Villaraigosa pointed out that hundreds of thousands of dollars are wasted each year to incarcerate dying prisoners who are no

longer a danger to the communi-

"My bill, AB 3093, would en-My bill, AB 3093, Would en-sure that terminally ill and physi-cally incapacitated prisoners are released in a timely fashion back into the community," Villaraigosa

Assemblyman Larry Bowler (R-Elk Grove) challenged other lawmakers to make a strong bipartisan show of support for AB 3093. He noted that the California Correctional Peace Officers

has correctional Peace Officers
Association had recently decided
to support the legislation.
A "Floor Alert" issued by the
HIV/AIDS in Prison Project
noted that the cost of incarcerating terminally ill prisoners is up-wards of \$75,000 per year. Daily trips to the outside hospital for prisoners cost approximately \$4,000 per day. Health care costs of released

prisoners would be shared among the federal, state, and local governments. Some costs would even be picked up by private nonprofit agencies, according to the floor alert.

alert.
Judy Greenspan, director of
the HIV/AIDS in Prison Project
of Catholic Charities, said that AB
3093 is probably the only humane and pro-prisoner piece of legisla-tion to pass the state Assembly this legislative term.

Some of the organizations supporting the bill include: the California Catholic Conference of Bishops; AIDS Project/Los Ange-les; the California Medical Asso-ciation, Women Organized to Re-spond to Life-threatening Dis-eases (WORLD); Catholic Charities of California; the California Correctional Peace Officers Association; Women's AIDS Network; the San Francisco AIDS Founda-

New supes

tor of the Charles A. Tindley Academy of Music, which is locat-ed at Third Baptist Church, was demoted after Brown falsely ac-cused her of lesbianism. On Monday, June 3, Reverend

Brown said it was a personnel issue and he "has to respect the confidentiality of that." He told the B.A.R., "It absolutely has nothing to do with anyone's personal lifestyle," then added that Third Baptist Church has "never entered anyone's personal lifestyle," and declined further comment.

Foster-Flynn's attorney, Charles Katz, did not return phone calls from the B.A.R.

'A supervisor for all'

Both new supervisors also spoke at the Harvey Milk Democ-ratic Club Tuesday, May 28 to reiterate the message of accessibility and urge citizens to call them re-

garding any issue.

It was Brown's second address to a primarily gay audience in three days; on Sunday, May 26 he

delivered a 30-minute sermon at the Metropolitan Community Church. At both appearances he went to great lengths to try to put past controversies – including his initial support for former Human Rights Commissioner Reverend Eugene Lumpkin, who was fired for making homophobic remarks for making homophobic remarks

– behind him.

Brown observed that ne later distanced himself from Lumpkin, and said, "I'd hope that's enough to allay anyone's fears that I'm homophobic. Caring about citizens in my book means all: the gays, the lesbians, the bisexuals. I Brown observed that he later the lesbians, the bisexuals. I pledge to you tonight my support, and I will be a supervisor for all." He added, "I'm vitally con-cerned about health issues, the

AIDS issues. I'm concerned about jobs, economic development, safety and security, and the homesafety and security, and the home-less." He also said he supports do-mestic partner laws, telling the crowd, "I'm concerned with equality regardless of what a per-son's personal preferences are." He said he does support needle exchange programs, and would support civil legislation for same-sex marriage.

Protest set for Saturday at women's prison in Chowchilla

by Cynthia Laird

demonstration will be held in front of Valley State
Prison for Women in
Chowchilla Saturday, June 8, to
demand healthcare for women

Stop the Murder of Women Prisoners, Health Care is a Right"
will be the first protest held at the
gates of Valley State Prison, which
officially opened in May 1995.
Organized by the California

Organized by the California Coalition for Women Prisoners, the event will include a rally and speakers from women's groups, community-based organizations, and former prisoners. They will focus on the poor medical care and lack of support services for women inmates at both Valley State Prison and the prison across State Prison and the prison across the street from it, the Central Cal-ifornia Women's Facility.

According to Judy Greenspan, director of the HIV/AIDS in Prison Project of Catholic Charities, women inside Valley State Prison have been trying to start a peer education group for several months.
"Their proposal has been ig-

nored by Warden Kuvkendall and nored by Warden Kuykendall and other staff at the prison," Greenspan said. "The warden insists that all HIV-positive women are being shipped across the street to the Central California Women's Facility, which does have a peer education program." However, Greenspan said, there are HIV-positive women at Valley State Prison.

Valley State Prison.

And, she added, "Peer education is for everyone, regardless of their HIV status."

Karen Shain, a spokesperson for the California Coalition of Women Prisoners, said her group

women inside Valley State Prison about the poor medical services.
"It seems that the prison administration is ignoring serious medical complaints and concerns," Shain said, "We have also learned shout the about the prison administration is ignoring serious medical complaints and concerns," Shain said, "We have also learned about the abusive and hu-miliating conditions that exist for women in the Security Housing Unit (SHU) there."

Saturday's demonstration will also urge that the SHU be shut down, in addition to supporting the women prisoners' proposal for HIV peer education. On April 4, 1995, a class action

co-based Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, the ACLU oners with Children, the ACLU National Prison Project in Washington D.C., and other law firms targeting the medical neglect and abusive care received by women prisoners with illnesses such as sickle cell anemia, breast and uterine cancer, diabetes pregnancy complications, and HIV/AIDS. The California Coalition for Women Prisoners is supporting Women Prisoners is supporting the lawsuit.

Groups that have endorsed Saturday's protest include: AIDS Legal Referral Panel; Death Penalty Focus; Come into the Sun Coalition; Food Not Bombs; Legal Services for Prisoners with Children; HIV/AIDS in Prison Project; National Network for Women in Prison; National People's Campaign; Pro-Family Advocates; Women's AIDS Network; and Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases (WORLD).▼

The protest begins at noon on June 8. For more information, call Greenspan at (510) 834-5657, ext. 3150.

Queer Watch

There are just too many holes in Obel's story. If he really has found a cure, it's his duty to share it with the other millions of PWAs around the world. If this mararound the world. If this marvelous herb can be cultivated, enough could be produced to cure AIDS. Obel could claim a percentage of the total take. Of course, this would require Obel to release the "secret" and allow Western medicos to test it on their own. There's no way Obel is going to risk that. He'll just ride this gravy train until it finally hits the end of the track and his "cure" is acknowledged as worthless. acknowledged as worthless.

Self-deluded?

Does it matter whether or not Obel actually believes his cure works? He seems sincere, but his product comes with all the hallmarks of a scam, everything from a "secret" formula, to claims of seronegativity, to price gouging. Still, people often manage to de-lude themselves, the doctors no less than the suckers. He may well believe that he's found a cure; he may have gotten sucked into his own PR campaign and believe that everyone in the medical esthat everyone in the incurace assistablishment is against him. He may have become enamored of playing the role of "savior" – that's definitely the case with many alternative treatment promoters here. Sure, he's gouging, but isn't he entitled to make something off such a fantastic discovery?

The answer is a qualified yes – he's entitled to make something off this, but only if it works. The this, but only it it works. The added dimension of state sponsor-ship of his snake oil makes Obel's potion particularly pernicious. It's as though President Clinton set up a Kemron clinic in the White House and started to sell it, ignoring secretaric from the Pice. ing protests from the FDA. (Kemron, by the way, is anoth

er drug that has been promoted by emotional appeals to Afrocen-trism. The failure of the drug to produce any effect when studied by Western medicos, despite miraculous claims from studies in Africa, has led to skepticism. But it has been particularly popular in the black community on the East Coast, where promoters dismiss such doubts by claiming Eurocentric prejudice against research done in Africa. In fact, several mil-lion dollars has just been appropriated for a large trial of Kemron,

prated for a large trial of Kemron, over the protests of the FDA and fueled by hints of reverse racism.)

The best hope for the end of the Pearl Omega saga is that Moi gets overthrown soon, but this is pretty unlikely. Eventually people will notice that it doesn't work and it will fade Of course the content of the people will not be supported to the protest of the people will notice that it doesn't work and it will fade Of course the course the people will not be supported to the people will n will notice that it doesn't work and it will fade. Of course, this may take a while if there's nothing else to replace it. This, ultimately, is the source of all AIDS-charlatanry: that there's no real cure to compete with the phonies, and this is particularly true in the Third World where antivirals are

too expensive for mass use.

In the face of a truly effective treatment, all these scams would treatment, an these scams would shrivel up and blow away. Alas, such treatment isn't available yet, at least not at affordable prices, and so we'll have to put up with things like Pearl Omega for some time to come.



STEVEN UNDERHILL 415-978-2463



Sacto AIDS front

HIV-positive Martinez man who was charged with assault with a deadly weapon after allegedly having unprotected sex with a woman.

Assembly Bill 3288 was also passed and sent to the Senate for vote. The measure by Republican Assemblyman Gary Miller of West Covina requires mandatory HIV testing of state prisoners.

Migden tops Kopp

The Assembly also passed an amended version of AB 2248, which would require parents to be notified and formally approve in writing before their elemen-tary and junior high children could receive AIDS education. Currently parents must notify schools in writing if they do not want children to receive such ed-

The controversial measure by Republican Assemblyman Steve Baldwin of El Cajon was amended to exclude high school students through the efforts of San Fran-cisco Assemblywoman Carole

Migden.
"One in four new HIV infec tions are among young people under the age of 20. Denying stu-dents access to AIDS education will lead to increased risk of exposure and put our next genera-tion of youth at severe risk, Migden said.

Independent San Francisco Assemblyman Quentin Kopp co-authored the measure, which has been denounced by AIDS experts and educators.

"Quentin Kopp needs to be held accountable," said Supervisor Tom Ammiano, a former presi-dent of the San Francisco School Board. "I think it's unconscionable that this kind of legisla-tion is supported by someone who claims to represent San Fran-

Although the survival of Kopp's measure through the Senate is questionable, Repub-lican Assemblyman Scott Baugh of Huntington Beach has added the parental consent language to the proposed state budget – and Kopp has been appointed to the joint legislative confer-ence committee considering the

budget.

Kopp's appointment to the committee guarantees the passage of the language, according to a Migden spokesperson.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 203995

STATEMENT FILE NO. 203995
The following person(s) are doing business as ORDER OF MALTA AUXILARY, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, WESTERN
ASSOCIATION, U.S.A., 465 California St.,
Suite 524, San Francisco, CA 94104: Western U.S.A. Association of Sovereign Millitary Hospitaller Order of St. John of
Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta (California Non-Profit Corporation), 465 California Non-Profit Corporation), 465 California Onn-Profit Corporation), 465 California Onn-Profit Corporation), 465 California Non-Profit Corporation), 465 California Non-Profit Corporation, 51 Statement St. Suite 524, San Francisco, CA 94104.
This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Richard J. Dunn, President.
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 22, 1996. co, CA on April 22, 1996. May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 203749 STATEMENT FILE NO. 203749
The following person(s) are doing business as NATIONWIDE LIMOUSINE SERVICE, 1397 San Mateo Ave., South San Francisco, CA 94080: R.K.M.S. inc. (Calif), 1397 San Mateo Ave., South San Francisco, CA 94080: R.K.M.S. inc. (Calif), 1397 San Mateo Ave., South San Francisco, CA 94080: Resistrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 11, 1,1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Saeed M. Lausasani, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Apr 11, 1996.

May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 1996.

To Whom It May Concern:
DIAMONON, Gladys G. & Horace Jr. are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at 3522 20th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110 with an On Sale Beer & Wine Eating Place license(s).
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 204366

STATEMENT FILE NO. 204366
The following person(s) are doing business as CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPE, 1850 Union St. Suite #594, San Francisco, CA 494123: Rs. Thomas, 1850 Union St., Suite #594, San Francisco, CA 94123. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 8, 1996. This business rame on the date of May 8, 1996. This business rame on the date of May 8, 1996. This business rame on the date of May 8, 1996. When the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 6, 1996.

May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 1996.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 204881
The following person(s) are doing business as PARSPORT, INC., 2229 Harrison St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Parsport, Inc., (California Corporation), 2129 Harrison St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 20, 1996. This busines's conducted by a corporation. Signed J. Sean Mattingly. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 24, 1996.

1996. May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 1996.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 204925
The following person(s) are doing business: VICTORIAN HOME WALK, 2226 15th St. San Francisco, CA 94114: Agy Britsol Gif-ford, 226 15th St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 28, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jay 8. Gifford. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 28, 1996.
May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 204955

STATEMENT FILE NO. 204955
The following person(s) are doing business as ANDIANT IMAGES, 95 Ora Way, #305F,
San Francisco, CA 94131: Robert J. Wright,
95 Ora Way, #305F, San Francisco, CA
94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 28, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Robert J. Wright. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 28, 1996. Francisco, CA on May 28, 1996. June 6, 13, 20, 27, 1996.

THE MENT FILE NO. 205034
The following person(s) are doing business as DOES YOUR FATHER KNOW, 548 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Resistantly. Neil Gelineau, 2750 Market St., #202, San Francisco, CA 94114. Resistantly. Sommenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 31, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Neil Gelineau. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, Ca on May 31, 1996. Francisco, CA on May 31, 1996. June 6, 13, 20, 27, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 205046 STATE MENT FILE ND. 200490
The following person(s) are doing business as THE SONOMA INN, 1465 Bush St., San Francisco, CA 40109: Satyen B. Sangani, SOT Tahor Road, Orinda, CA 94563. Registrant(s) commenced business name on the date of IAA. This basiness is conducted by an individual. Signed Satyen B. Sangani, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 31, 1996.

June 6, 13, 20, 27, 1996.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 978613 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE

OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY
OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the
application of BIAO 2HAO for change of
name. The application of BIAO 2HAO for
change of name, having been filled in Court,
and it appearing from said application that
BIAO 2HAO has filed an application proposing that HIS name be change to BYRON
BIAO 2HAO. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court
in Department X-4 on the 12th day of July,
1996, at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to
show cause why the application for change of
name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published
in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper
of general circulation, printed in said county,
at least once each week for four successive
weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated
this 30th day of May, 1996.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR

June 6, 13, 20, 27, 1996.

RDDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO.

978612

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of YING TONG for change of name. The application of YING TONG for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that YING TONG has filed an application proposing that HER name be change to GRACE YING TONG. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 12th day of July, 1996, at 9:00 of clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Date this 30th day of May, 1996. this 30th day of May, 1996. June 6, 13, 20, 27, 1996

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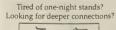
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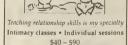
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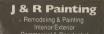


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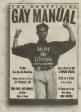


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'Best Gay Erotica 1996' is more about class striving, says critic Daniel Harris, than pornography.

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Deborah Peifer gets *Peifericious with the*

Lady GelderBrandt

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'I Can't Sleep':

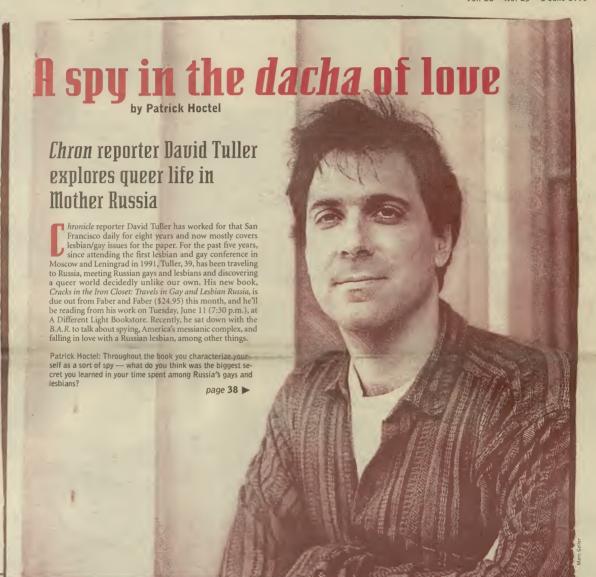
a disturbing meditation on today's urban outsiders.

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ARTS ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 26 • No. 23 • 6 June 1996





A walk on the wild side

Sal Mineo bares almost all in Who Killed Teddy Bear?

by Robert Julian

his week, the Castro Theatre dives into the trash can of forgotten B-movies, emerging with 1965's Who Killed Teddy Bear?, starring Sal Mineo. It's rare when any work of art can be described using only one adjective, but in this case, lurid says it all. Filmed in moody black-and-white, Teddy Bear is described as an "exploitation movie" and, in this case, it is human neuroses, obsessions, and perversions which are blatantly exploited. As most San Franciscans will immediately understand, this makes Teddy Bear perfect for a one-week run at the Castro.

run at the Castro.

The action of the film revolves around a pre-disco era restaurant/dance bar managed by tough-talking Marian Freeman, played by Elaine Stritch. Juliet Prowse plays the club deejay, Norah Dain, who sublets a Manhattan apartment while

looking for her big break on Broadway; and the petite yet buffed Sal Mineo assays the role of Larry Sherman, a waiter in the club. When Norah starts getting obscene phone calls, Detective Dave Madden (Jan Murray) is called in to investigate. We soon learn that ever since his wife was brutally murdered by an unidentified sicko, Detective Madden has become a self-educated, self-defined expert in sexual perversion.

by an unidentified sicko, Detective Madden has become a self-educated, self-defined expert in sexual perversion.

Director Joseph Cates opens the film with an obscene phone call made by an unidentified stud-muffin in Jockey shorts, who fondles his semi-naked torso compulsively (guess who?). This scene is augmented by a flashback sequence that portrays an adult sexual liaison witnessed by a young girl who subsequently falls down a flight of stairs and loses her teddy bear as she flees the scene. The screenplay, by Leon Tokatyan and Arnold Drake, slowly unfolds a Disneyland of sexual dysfunction, focusing on porn magazines, peep shows, sexual ob-

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BE THERE

by Chris Culwell, Hera Caen and Adrian Roberts

t's taken well over a year for Claire Denis' provocative I Can't Sleep to finally get a commercial release in San Francisco

mercial release in San Francisco (it plays the Roxie June 7-20). It's conjecture on our part, but we suspect one reason Sleep didn't play here until now is because one of its principal characters, Camille, is a black, homosexual killer drag queen. How do you spell controversial? Oddly, Ms. Denis, the Parisbased filmmaker who made the films Chocolat and Jacques Rivette, Le Veilleur, wasn't aware that her latest flick, which is based on a true story about a series of Paris true story about a series of Paris stranglings, might not sit well with certain parties Stateside.

ing the Geraldine Fibbers, Extra Fancy, and Stone Fox. But then, no trip back to our fair city would be complete with-out a reunion of Kiki and Herb, her lounge act from hell with pi-anist **Kenny Mellman**. Last Saturday night's performance at the Embassy Lounge was nothing short of inspired genius, as she short of inspired genius, as she plowed through a set that included numbers by such diverse artists as PJ Harvey, Neil Diamond, U2, Barbra Streisand, and Pink Floyd, among others. For an encore, she asked if anyone in the audience had a copy of Allen Ginsberg's Howl, which — conveniently enough — someone did. This prompted a reading that hysterically pushed the boundaries of both cabaret and spoken word performance. Has NYC not yet learned to appreciate Ms.

removal of his show from the Gallery, which is situated in a complex also housing a theater, video salon and another gallery. The reason? Apparently an The reason? Apparently an unidentified cultural official in Havana thought minors strolling to and from the movie house might be corrupted by Gerharter's pics.

But, says Ricky, "There's nothing pornographic in the exhibit, just some drag queens, but on the whole it's pretty tame stuff."

Tame certainly describes the other offending photos, one showing two boys — fully clothed — kissing, and another featuring three scantily clad studs at the Folsom Street Fair. No dicks, no tits, no

Out

There

terializing as coffee and muffins was inauspicious.

The absence of any showbiz-nesslike glamour, electricity or ur-gency emanating from co-direc-tors Michael Lumpkin and

Jennifer Morris was offset by a question down front in the folding chairs. Rel-ishing her baked good, **Your Devot-**ed Snoop missed the particulars but grasped the concept

grasped the concept
"parity." As in:
equal cinematic
representation for
girls and boys —
not! Why not! was the gist of
Kathleen Wilkinson's query.
Limply, Lumpkin said he didn't count films, before chivalrously massing the mike to the perox-

ly passing the mike to the peroxided Ms. Morris, who kept talking until one of them offered the queer koan, "What is a lesbian

film?" If you had to ask

The provocative interlocutor went on to wonder aloud why the went on to wonder aloud why the first draft of the press hand-out condensing the festival's history had erased significant lesbian contributions. Looking more bored than annoyed, Lumpkin briskly attributed blame to a Third Party.

Looking through the catalogue and doing some counting of our own, we realized that three out of ten films touted as lesbian features

ten films touted as lesbian features were directed by men. That's when parity starts to sound like

Enterprising gal

You have to take your hat off to Jenni Olson. The ever-busy former co-director of the SF Lesbian and Gay Film Festival and current director of popcornQ, a lesbian and gay website affiliated with Planet Out, has just published a book, The

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The above photo of Justin Bond inspecting meat at the 1992 Miss Uranus Contest was one of three photos by Rick Gerharter that wrankled nerves in Havana, Cuba.

"Why did you decide to make a film about a black gay serial killer?" B.A.R.'s **Brandon Judell** asked the filmmaker last year upon the film's release in New York.

"What is another film with a gay black serial killer?" Denis shot back. "Where are all those films?"

Denis went on to explain that here interests in This.

Denis went on to explain that her interest in Thierry Paulin ("Camille"), who died of AIDS in prison in 1988, wasn't lurid. "I was struck by Paulin's journey through life," the filmmaker said. "French society does not usually produce killers, and Paulin stood out as an exception. We had a negative image of him from start to finish. He'd been a character on the fringe of society since his childhood — black, homosexual, with his drug deals, murders, and, finally, AIDS. I was intrigued by this 'monster,' which is how the Paris press referred to him. At the same time, the man, the person, same time, the man, the person, remained totally mysterious. That is what fascinated me."

The girl gets around

She may have moved to New York City to seek fame and for-tune, but when that girl blows back into town every now and then for a little visit, it's like she never left. We're talking, of course, about the ever-fabulous **Justin** Bond, who seems to have emceed or performed at practically every queer event this city has offered up over the past three weeks. The Sylvia Miles tribute at the Castro Theatre, a Club Jesus event, Tranny-shack, Sissybar, Wigstock West, the list goes on. And even when she's not on stage, she's still there, having been spotted at sev-eral recent SF rock shows, includ-

Bond's immense talent? Maybe not, which would explain why she keeps popping up back here.

Strawberries and censorship

While we're on the subject of Ms. Bond, she is one of the rea-sons photographer Rick Gerhar-San Francisco, a selection of images of SF's queer community, was pulled without warning from the walls of Havana's Cine Yara Gallery earlier this month. The of-fending pic showed Ms. Bond closely inspecting the meat at an early '90s Miss Uranus Contest. Hoooooow shocking. Hoooooow shocking.
Gerharter was distressed by the

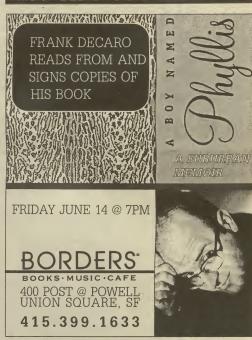
pudenda. If this is scandalous, what, pray tell, is **Robert Mapplethorpe?**

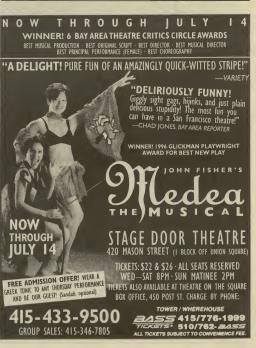
The ironic thing, according to Gerharter, is that Cine Yara Gallery is in the same complex as the theatre where **Thomas Alea's** film Strawberries and Chocolate, about a gay teacher's coming to terms with his homosexuality in Cuba, played to capacity crowds for months and broke box-office records.

Lumpkin takes lumps

Hera Caen upstairs at the Castro: You can't judge a film festival by its press conference. Nonetheless, Frameline's promised "light brunch" at last week's confab ma-









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Strike a pose

catwalk stays on the surface

by Robert Julian

ith the release of catwalk, directors Robert Leacock and Milton Moses Gins-berg throw yet another log on the bonfire of vanities known as haute couture. In this instance, their documentary cameras follow model Christy Turlington as she works her way through a series of fashion shows in Milan, Paris, and New York The result is a passed. New York. The result is an engaging but unfulfilling journey across

Turlington, a Bay Area native, comes across as pleasant, down-to-earth, and hardworking. Whether stalking down the run-Whether stalking down the run-way in full face or posing for pho-tographers on location, Turling-ton's world-class beauty is unde-niable. Her looks are patrician and serene, with a slightly Eurasian exoticism that lifts her above the merely attractive and into the ranks of supermodels. into the ranks of supermodels. Accompanying Turlington, we find the usual suspects: Naomi Campbell, Kate Moss, Claudia Schiffer, Cindy Crawford, and designers like Giorgio Armani, John Galliano, Jean-Paul Gaultier, Gianni Versace, and Karl Lagerfeld. A retinue of arch queens amplies A retinue of arch queens applies finishing touches to hair and

make-up, and hangers-on like Sandra Bernhard and Jaye Davidson pop up at the predictably "un-expected" moments.

The directors have chosen to

The directors have chosen to mix black-and-white photography with color, employing the former when Turlington is not modeling, and the latter when she is working the runway. This may signify that the model's "real" life is the time she spends at her craft, not the monochromatic moments that monochromatic moments that take her from fittings to show-rooms to hotels to discos. The mix-ture of color with black-and-white photography also appeared in Douglas Keane's 1995 fashion documentary *Unzipped*, where Keane followed designer Isaac Mizrahi through the preparation and debut of a new collection. But where Keane's work soared beyond the limitations of its subject matter to explore the nature of the creative process, catwalk never manages to transcend the glamorous but mundane milieu of those who strike a pose for a living. MTV covers the fashion world

MTV covers the fashion world with the same level of insight as catwalk. And films like Unzipped and Robert Altman's Ready to Wear have already plumbed the rather shallow depths of life on the runway. Style is not substance and, at least in catwalk, the twain



Christy Turlington

do not meet. Yet Isaac Mizrahi once again seizes the moment with his engaging yenta-like per-sonality, while John Galliano and Sharon Stone add sideshow ele-ments of their own. Galliano is hysterically campy as he shows the models how to trot down the runway in enormous hoop skirts runway in enormous hoop skirts as they pretend they're being chased by a wolf. But Stone, appearing in a bridal mini-dress for the finale of Valentino's collection, adds an unexpectedly somber note. Before she appears, the models are shown putting on their make-up and talking about how brave Stone's Basic Instinct display was ... for a woman of her age. Then Stone, thrown in with age. Then Stone, thrown in with the supermodels, makes her appearance, looking for all the world like the models' much older sister — still beautiful, but a

bit de trop.
Fans of fashion television and Fans of fashion television and supermodel groupies will have a great time at *catwalk*. Others may be less impressed. In passing, it is always amusing to watch the beautiful get away with inanities that would make ordinary humans appear completely foolish. But when *catwalk*'s 95 minutes of amusement cease, the pleasantly diverted viewer will once again be forced to confront the void. ▼

catwalk opens at the Lumiere in San Francisco on Friday.



Sal Mineo and Juliet Prowse in Who Killed Teddy Bear?

Sal Mineo

■ Arts cover

sessions, voyeurism, incest, and rampant paranoia. As the plot progresses, the audience, too, is forced into the role of voyeur, watching Juliet Prowse and Sal Mineo parade around in their underwear for no discernible reason other than audience titillation.

The dialogue in *Teddy Bear* frequently veers toward camp, although the performances are consistently on target. Elaine Stritch, as Marian, is allowed to be tart and sassy until the put-upon Norah senses that Marian may be a lesbian. Then, of course, Marian must die. Sexy Sal Mineo broods effectively, whether working out at the gym or parading around in skin-tight sleeveless T-shirts and white chinos that silhouette his genitals. And Jan Murray, former TV game-show host and stand-up comic, makes the psycho-sniffing Detective Madden almost as creepy as the criminals he stalks. Daniel Travanti (of Hills Street Blues fame) makes a brief appearance as the club bouncer, who is deaf, and Margot Bennett brings a loopy sincerity to her portrayal of Edie, the retarded sister of Sal Mineo's character.

The photography of Joseph

Mineo's character.

The photography of Joseph Brun is first-rate, but director Cates betrays uncertainty with his assignment (and script) by devoting excessive amounts of time to following Mineo and Prowse as they walk alone through the streets of Manhattan. His camera also linger, needlessly, on the also lingers needlessly on the mixed-race crowd as they frug their way around the club's dance floor. Is this bi-racial collection as-sembled as an indication of the progressive nature of the club — and the times — or is it intended as yet another instance of socioas yet another instance of socio-sexual depravity? This is only one of many questions audience members may find themselves asking as *Teddy Bear's* plot un-

At least superficially, Cates' film springs from the same '60s well that produced *Lady in a Cage* and *Hush, Hush, Sweet Charlotte.* But for all its camp value, this film leaves a curiously disturbing residue in its wake. Subjects like rape, incest, and sexual obsession are dangled before the viewer for their entertainment value, with much pontification but no serious discussion or meaningful insight. When any film throws these sub-jects, and others, into the public arena in much the same way Ro-mans tossed Christians to lions, the resultant prurient tone is al-most inevitable. Yes, in retrospect, *Teddy Bear* is quite a hoot. But it should come as no surprise when some audience members walk out of the Castro Theatre licking their chops and giggling, while others head straight home for a muchneeded shower.

Who Killed Teddy Bear? plays the Castro Theatre June 7-13. For information, call 621-6120.



Grand illusions

I Can't Sleep depicts a world of drifters, dreamers and killers

by Gary Morris

he opening scene of *I Can't* Sleep establishes the kind of opaque world this film intends to explore. Two pilots are shown flying over Paris laughing at something the audience knows nothing about. Their inwithout being even slightly revealing, as if to say we have walked in after the punch line. This instance of laughter— This instance of laughter — however inscrutable — is rare in the work of writer-director Claire Denis. Her Paris is as quietly terrifying as the West Africa of her 1988 art-house classic Chocolat — both are arid, stifling zones of psychic collapse, filled with rootless, self-deluded characters and an all-pervading, lethal malaise.

I Can't Sleep, like Chocolat, is based on reality. The latter film grew out of Denis' personal experiences growing up white in

periences growing up white in black West Africa. I Can't Sleep is a kind of existential murder mysblack, gay drag queen serial murder mys-tery based on a true story about a black, gay drag queen serial mur-derer named Thierry Paulin, who killed and robbed 20 elderly French women in Paris in 1987. Denis refashioned Paulin (who Denis retastioned Paulin (who died in a French prison of AIDS) as Camille (Richard Courcet), who divides his time between a cabaret drag act and walking zombie-like through the streets of Paris.

Camille, however, is by no means the main show. His story is balanced by the more prosaic ones of the other major characters, and his murders - two are shown, briefly — are treated as mere threads in a larger tapestry see Deiga (Katerina Golubeva), a Lithuanian émigré who comes to Paris to become an actress, only to end up a chambermaid. Completing this triangle is Camille's brother Theo (Alex Descas), whose dream of returning to his native Martinique is as unrealistic and unattainable as Deiga's acting ambitions. Throughout the film, these three characters intersect without ever really con-

necting.
This lack of connection is one This lack of connection is one of this film's — and Chocolar's — major motifs: people live in a world of self-absorption, voyeurism and existential despair. The characters spend an inordinate amount of time watching each other, misinterpreting remarks and motives, speaking "the wrong language." Deiga can call a policeman "seal dick!" because he doesn't understand her Russian. One of dick!" because he doesn't under-stand her Russian. One of Camille's victims, the owner of the hotel in which Deiga works, typifies the lack of self-awareness of Denis' characters. A middle-aged woman who teaches self-de-fense, she is completely unaware of Camille's true nature. He or Camilies true nature. He strings her along for the rent and she comments on what "nice boys" he and his lover are. Soon after, the two lovers knock her through a door and strangle her with a belt. The problem of language, of

speaking — i.e. reacting to another person — is posed throughout, marked in Deiga by her inability to speak French, and

in Camille by his terseness. One of the characters refers to this specifically, saying he believes Camille is "mute." Occasionally, someone rebels against the drea-ry malaise. Theo's estranged wife, Mina (Irina Grjebina), viciously Mina (Irina Grjebina), viciously pummels him during an argument and screams the command "Fucking react!" But it barely makes an impression on Theo, who is completely absorbed in his fantasy of emigration to Martinique, a place he envisions as a land of plenty.

land of plenty.

The barbaric treatment of blacks in Chocolat reappears here in muted form, when a bourgeois French housewife tries to rip off Theo for some carpentry work he's performed. More subtly, Camille's almost mindless assults on the dowagers — "It's a crazy world," he says by way of explanation — can be read as the inevitable outcome of colonial inevitable outcome of colonial

oppression.

Denis' style in rendering this Denis' style in rendering this unpleasant material is painterly, impressionistic, and above all, deceptive. What looks like a dead woman — a body with painted fingernails and a pillow over the face — turns out to be a living man, Camille. The illusions here, particularly those related to sexual identity are never quite comparticularly those related to sex-ual identity, are never quite com-plete; there's always a seam show-ing. During one of Camille's drag acts, he wears long evening gloves and a tight black dress, but his obviously male nipples are clear-ly exposed above the dress line, as if to remind us that escape even the kind offered by drag—is impossible. ▼

I Can't Sleep plays June 7-June 20 at the Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St. Call 863-1087 for information



Richard Courcet is Camille (left), the vortex around which I Can't Sleep revolves. Laurent Grevill (right) is his lover and accomplice.

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David Tuller

✓ Arts cover

David Tuller: My friends really David Tuller: My friends really characterized me as a spy because they were intrigued that I was so interested in talking to people about their sex lives and their sexuality. So to me the biggest secret was the degree to which they had managed to create these very rich, really vibrant lives for themselves really vibrant lives for themselves in relationships that had lasted an incredibly long time. That this was going on, the extent of it, through the worst periods of the Soviet era — unnoticed and unremarked upon, subterranean — was to me quite remarkable.

Maybe the most valuable thing your book does is to debunk the idea that gays and lesbians are somehow the same the world over and that what we American gays and lesbians have learned from our struggles is applicable to other cultures. That said, what do you think American queers can teach our Russian counterparts and vice versa?

Americans are a messianic people. They want to go over and teach everything, and they think they can do it right. In Russia, they want to teach capitalism, how to be democrats and how to be queer. Some of the things Americans can do - Americans do have certain organizational abilities.

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They have experience, say, with setting up a board of directors, fundraising strategies, etc. The kinds of things Americans can offer that Russians would like is

offer that Russians would like is practical advice and support, as opposed to handing over an ideological framework that they then expect Russians to follow.

From them, we can learn to have a little more humility...when it comes to our own cultural prejudices. [To admit] that we do have them. That we're not representative of

admit] that we do have them. That we're not representative of the universal norm that everybody's supposed to follow.

What I learned there through my experience of falling in love with a lesbian was — it's sort of cliché — to go with the flow, to respond more in the moment and not be so wedded to a particular identity or perception of myself that I don't allow other experiences or emotions to filter in. People are contradictory impulses. Russians don't seem to feel that every single contradiction has to be regle contradiction has to be re-solved into one unified whole.

Reading Cracks in the Iron Closreading Cracks in the Iron Clos-et, I couldn't help thinking of the maxim "Necessity is the mother of invention." The terrific oppres-sion these people you write about have suffered really forced them to invent lives for themselves out of whole cloth, thereby creating, somewhat paradoxically, these terrifically strong, albeit small,

As lowes

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communities.

One of the big surprises to me, one of the things that I found so refreshing, was that these people are so resilient. We've tended to think here of Soviet life as just this dreary, gray monolith, and it is, it was, in many ways. On a public level, it was harsh and horrible, but on a private level, people found ways to compensate. With all their deprivations, they found amazing riches in their relationships with each other.

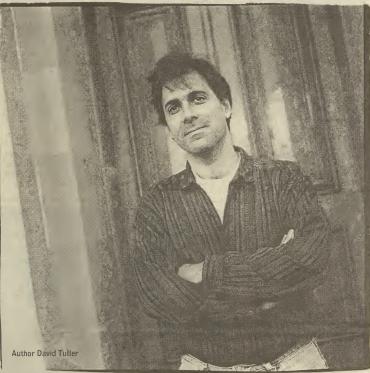
There are these incredibly

tle sort of country house that many people have ... That place became a metaphor for this kind of tight circle that people formed, and I fell into one group, but I'm sure that every dacha had its own configuration, its own intensities and its own weirdnesses

The Russians you befriended seem much less hung up on gender roles and defining their sexuality than we are. In fact, they seem to pretty much accept others for whatever they say they are, in-cluding a man who proclaims

ould deem it a betrayal of lesbianism to sleep with men, she would say, "That's just like Com-munism or totalitarianism. That's ridiculous. Why should anybody care? I'll do what I want."

care? I'll do what I want."
They're very resistant to the idea that there should be some group telling them that there's a group norm that they should be fitting themselves into. They don't want to fit themselves into any norm because they're sick of that, and since there wasn't a larger gay community telling them what to do, they kind of made it up as



Local Guys Are Vaiting For You! strong ties, and for someone like me, it could be a bit claustrophobic at times. You just could never get out of their sight. Friends were constantly calling and wondering where you were and why hadn't you been over for dinner and why hadn't you stayed all night. We're not used to that here. In New York I would call up friends two weeks in advance and make an appointment to see them for dinner. There, people got together on the weekend and hung out and got drunk, or didn't, but would sleep over. It was like always being in a

college dorm.

For me, the friends that I spent time with at the dacha — this lit-

himself a male lesbian. What do you think accounts for this greater level of tolerance on their

Russians were so constantly forced into various groups and told the rules they were supposed to follow that now they basically reject someone trying to tell them what to do — or another group They view "a gay community," in the larger sense, in the same way.

So, for example, when I would tell my lesbian friend Ksyusha,

who didn't sleep with men a lot but did whenever she wanted to, that many American lesbians they went along. This guy thought he was a lesbian inside. Well, fine. This lesbian wanted to sleep with three men and a woman at the same time. That's fine, too

Cracks in the Iron Closet very humorously examines the Russian character and finds that some clichés do indeed hold up under close scrutiny. Russians generally love their vodka, tell tall tales, and have a penchant for drama and intrique. If you had to define the "typical Russian," what would your description be?

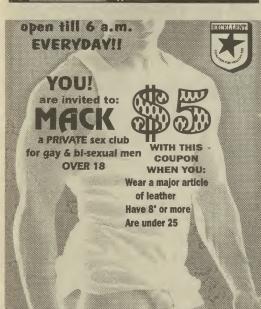
The average Russian certainly drinks — a lot. Part of the drinking is because life was so drab and dull, and this allowed them to especially and the state of the an "internal immigration." But part of it is also that there really is this kind of Russian mysticism and this wanting to have these flights of fancy and transcend re-

ality.

A lot of what we call lying, to Russians is just fantasy. People exaggerate and they embellish, but there's an artistry to it and a greater truth they're reaching for. The drinking frees them to go into that transcendent realm where they can indulge their fan-tasies. Of course, then they have hangovers and the fantasies often never come to much, because it's

At the heart of the book is your relationship with Ksyusha, a Russian lesbian. This slowly evolving romance seems emblematic of your experience there as a

page 40 >





Bird of paradise

The return of singing legend Yma Sumac

by John Blanco

f ever there was a voice that seemed designed to exploit the woofers and tweeters of '50s' ni-fi systems, it was Yma Sumac's The "Peruvian princess" was leg-endary for her four-octave range, a gift that enabled her to plunge effortlessly from piercing upper to rumbling lower registers.

On Voice of the Ixtabay, her 1950 On voice of the Exturba, not 1220, debut recording, there seemed no limit to the vocal tricks she had up her heavily embroidered sleeve. The song "Chuncho" had her using her awesophe range to recreate the cries of a host of forest creatures. On another tune, "Tumpa," the singer used her instrument to evoke an earthquake. But she also knew when to lay off the vocal gymnastics. Her singing remained breathy and light on the haunting "K'Arawi," where she was backed only by acoustic guitar.

Voice of the Ixtabay was a huge hit, becoming one of Capitol. Records best-selling products. There is no denying, however, that clever mythmaking had as much to do with Surnae's success as h spectacular voice. According early publicity, Sumac was said to be a Peruvian-born Incan princess, a descendant of Atahualreporter claimed that her real name was Amy Camus, an ana-gram for Yma Sumac, and that she

was acrually born in Brooklyn.

Sumac's true history has never been fully uncovered, but it hardly matters. A certain spuriousness is part of her appeal. There is certainly little that is authentically Peruvian about the songs on any of heralbums. The music of Moises Vivanco, Sumac's composer, touted as "one of the foremost au-thorities on ancient music" in the liner notes of one of her albums), is often booming and brassy— Peru by way of Broadway. ic community hazard" capable of luring "large groups of people away from their daily responsibilities."

The cover art for the albums usually features Sumac striking an exotic pose while dressed as if she the Incas (1954) or Omar Khayyam (1957), two movies she made for Paramount at the height of her fame. On the best cover, for her 1957 head-hunter opus Leg-end of the Jivaro, Sumac gazes up

Yma Sumac's true history has never been fully uncovered, but it hardly matters. A certain spuriousness is part of her appeal.

"30s — Surrac's records make for highly entertaining listening. They were difficult to find for many years, but the Rephi-stuff record label recently trissued all five of her albums on CD. They come complete with the original

liner notes and cover art, which alone are worth the price.

The liner notes, which often contain long, detailed descriptions of each song, sound as if they were written by some dubious ethnomusicologist. For instance, in the

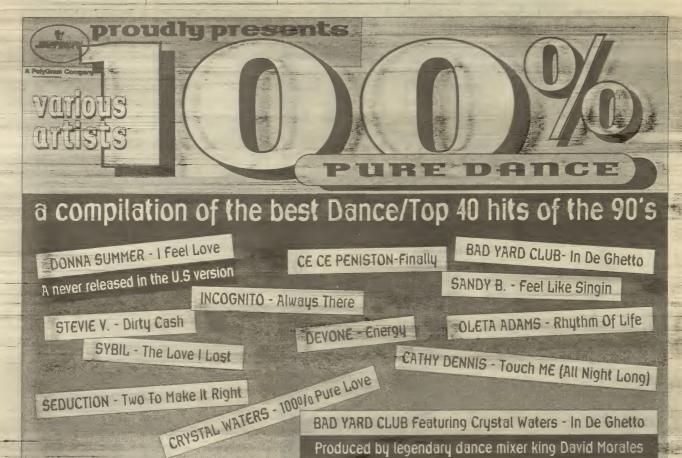
in terror as a shrunken head on a stick is thrust in her face.

After a decade or so in retirement, Sumac began performing again in the mid-80s. Now around 70 (her exact age is perhaps a bigger mystery than her origins), the singer reportedly still looks opulent and send in somett Movide. lent and regal in concert. Would you expect less from a princess? ▼

Yma Sumac performs Thursday, June 6. at Great American Music Hall. Call 885-0750 for tickets and information.



Peruvian Princess or Brooklyn-born wannabe?



IN STORES JUNE 11, 1996

MUSIC

San Francisco's **All-American**

oker-playin', beer-drinkin', cigarette-smokin' songs. That's how Billy Valentine describes the music he makes with his band Holy Joe. "It's kind of roots-based and American with the music he makes with his band Holy Joe." ican, with my own par-ticular slant, which is that of a gay male liv-ing in San Francisco," says Billy, "Basically it's white-trash, trailer-park, all-American rock 'n' roll."

Despite his Palo

Alto upbringing, Billy brings a rough-edged, down-home sensibility down-home sensibility to his music, characterized by his gritty "smokes-two-packs-aday" voice and confessional songwriting style. "A lot of my songs reflect a feeling of despreation and hor despreation and hor

songs reflect a feeling of desperation and hopelessness," says the 32-year-old singer. "Of being cast out of society. I've lived on skid row, I've been homeless. I've been addicted to heroin, I've been a prostitute. I've made it through a lot of shit. I'm a survivor."

Holy Joe plays Monday, June 17 (10:30 p.m.), at Club Boomerang, 1840 Haight Street. But for a more mellow version of the band's "all-American rock 'n' roll," check out one of Billy Valentine's "unplugged" shows, which happens every Friday night in June at 8 p.m. at Mad Magda's Russian Cafe, 579 Hayes at Laguna. "It's going to be me solo, with just the acoustic guitar," says Billy, "I'm going to be doing the songs the way they are originally written, going to be doing the songs the way they are originally written, when I sit around my living room." -Adrian Roberts

Class and brass

Whitfield, McNight charm in new shows

by Chad Jones

ormer San Franciscans and current cabaret wonders
Weslia Whitfield and
Sharon McNight are back in town with two wonderful new shows. Whitfield is assaying the work of composer Harold Arlen at the New Orleans Room in the Fair-mont and McNight is turning her prodigious talents to the songs of Sophie Tucker at the Plush Room in the York Hotel.

There isn't much about Whit-field that hasn't already been said: she has an unmatched vocal purity grounded in fine interpretive skills. In the rich world of cabaret, Whitfield is the gold standard, and anytime she returns to the City is reason to rejoice. In her City is reason to rejoice. In her Fairmont show, the singer puts a distinctive touch on such Arlen hits as "Over the Rainbow" and "Paper Moon" as well as on lesser-known gems, like the shimmering "This Time the Dream's On Me" and the touching "What's Good About Goodbye?" Pianist/arranger Michael Greensill provides his usual brilliant accompaniment. On opening night, companiment. On opening night, bassist Michael Moore seemed undermiked. Whitfield, on the other hand, was overmiked, and with an instrument as intricate and finely detailed as hers, the blaring speakers tended to blur the singer's emotional through-



Weslia Whitfield

On her best days, diva Sharon McNight doesn't need a mike. Like they used to tell Sophie Tucker, whom she brilliantly brings to life in her latest show, brings to life in her latest show, she could audition in New York without ever leaving Connecticut. In *The Sophie Tucker Songbook*, McNight channels her brassy bravado into the legendary per-son of Tucker, fondly remem-bered as "the last of the red hot mamas." A Jewish vaudeville star who went on to fame on film, Broadway, TV and on records, Tucker was an original. Bawdy, boisterous and soulful, she is too often forgotten these days, seen only in the legacy she left to performers such as Barbra Streisand and Bette Midler.

McNight has been putting this

McNight has been putting this show together for over a decade now, and her affection for Tucker comes through in every note, chuckle and off-color remark. She has just the right amount of sly humor, brio and balls (metaphorisal of course) to bring Tucker view. ical, of course) to bring Tucker vibrantly to life.

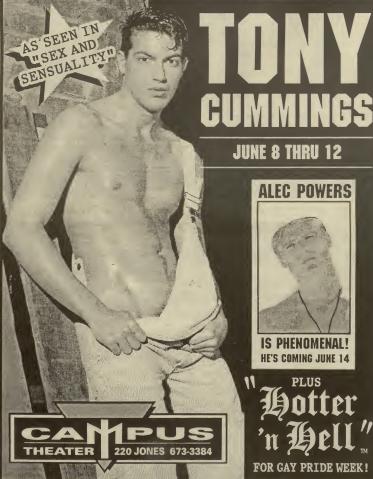
As McNight maneuvers through Tucker's tricky repertoire — from the sexually frustrated story of "Myron" who's not desirin' to the heartfelt schmaltz of sirin to the heartfelt schmaltz of "My Yiddishe Mama" — the singer never fails to excite with this perfect match of character and material. McNight is ably assisted by the expert James Followell on piano.



Sharon McNight

Weslia Whitfield continues at the New Orleans Room through June 15. Call 772-5259 for information. Sharon McNight's Sophie Tucker Songbook continues at the Plush Room through June 21. Call 885-2800 for information.

EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT WITH CATALINA FILM STAR



David Tuller

⋖ page 38

whole, as it compels you to re-examine many of the former "truths" you held so dear.

Yeah, because basically I was this San Francisco homosexual. I lived in the Castro. It had been 15 years since I'd slept with a woman or had any romantic inclinations toward one, even though I had close women friends. The fact that this wind of feeling took me over was really quite a surprise to me, and it was rather emblematic of the sur-prise of what could happen in this bizarre, fascinating, wonderful,

fucked-up country.

We sort of have a relationship like the Boston marriages of the 19th century. We have a very passionate, nonsexual romance. I love her, and she loves me. When we get together, there's this undeni-able intensity. Once again, I've al-ways had close relationships with women, so it wasn't that. There was an added dimension to it sensual as opposed to explicitly sexual, but definitely not devoid

of certain bodily yearnings.
I still go back and I see her, and
I have all these feelings. They haven't lessened or gone away. I think I hadn't realized that I still had the capacity to feel that [for a woman], and it's not like I want to go out and call myself bisexual and have affairs with women. It's not that. It's putting myself in that sit-uation and letting myself have this set of feelings that I had long ago left behind. It's startling to me.

Sex by any other name

by Daniel Harris

Best Gay Erotica 1996, selected and introduced by Scott Heim, edited by Michael Ford; Cleis Press, \$12.95

Ithough those who write what is now fashionably called "erotica" would have us believe that they are engaged in the nitty-gritty, down-and-dirty, no-holds-barred business of "get[ting] the reader off," as Scott Heim so indelicately puts it in his introduction to the Best Gay Erotica 1996, in fact its primary purpose is not to arouse but to edify, not to excite but to indoctrinate, to "make us think while our hands to "make us think while our hands are busy." Virtually all of the stories in Best Gay Erotica 1996 are propaganda in disguise, serving subtly tendentious purposes. After 25 years of gay pornography based on an exaggeratedly unsensual type of hard-core sex between rutting, insentient automatons, who don't make love so much as batter each other into oblivion with ereceach other into oblivion with erec-tions large as fire hydrants and tes-ticles the size of beach balls, stories like Jameson Currier's "First Shave" or Alex Jeffers' "The Voice of the Capon" are intended to show that gay sex can be sensitive, romantic, and voluptuous rather than cheap and anonymous.

than cheap and anonymous.
What's more, these stories are meant to affirm the value and goodness of sex in an age in which it is easily equated with disease and death. In "The Last Blowjob," for instance, Steven Greco makes a valiant, if unsuccessful, effort to do the impossible and go where no pornographer has gone before a no pornographer has gone before: to eroticize the emaciated body of a hospitalized PWA whom he describes as a ravaged but indomitable, other-worldly figure, all tightly braided and muscle covered in a parchment-thin "shrink-wrap of skin."

"shrink-wrap of skin."
Finally, these stories are tendentious for, as Michael Ford explains in his foreword, they are meant "to stretch the boundaries of our erotic lives," introduce us to a whole range of alternative sexual practices, as in Matthew Rettenmund's "Pleasingly," a deliciously iconoclastic demolition of traditional Jenny Craig, gymqueen sex. Here, two chubby, pizza-eating tubs of lard, defying the punitive standards of chiseled, ectomorphic muscularity that ectomorphic muscularity that have complicated gay men's im-ages of their bodies for the last few decades, jiggle like Jello molds while making love between candy wrappers and empty Coke cans. In the most "transgressive" story in the collection, Carol Queen's "Ganged," a club of elderly gay sadists unknowingly put through her paces an androgynous woman who cross-dresses as a boy, a swinish, toilet-pig bottom who

services her masters in crotchless chaps in a cage, a dildo strapped precariously between her legs. Taken as a whole, the anthology is a self-conscious exercise in sexual multiculturalism, the didactic outcome of a democratic impulse to present a wide variety of homoerotic experiences. Including stories about B&D, switch-hitting, ménage à trois, tattooing, shaving, and water sports, it conscientiously avoids the runof-the-mill type of vanilla sex found in conventional pornogra-phy, where plumbers, cowboys, and grease monkeys plow each other over bales of hay in the lofts of barns or in the cabs of tractor

trailers and hydraulic fork lifts. Although *Best Gay Erotica*

1996 contains some good writing ("best" is a troubling misnomer), it suffers from its editors' cloyingly sex-positive attitudes. The modern pornographer is only secondarily a writer of smut but is first and foremost an evangelist who teaches us that sex is oh-so-good for us, that it is a kind of miracle cure for our personal trou-bles as well as for the ills of humanity, a cultish form of erotic therapy that he foists on his audience with proselytizing fervor. For the new generation of erotic writers, fucking has become a religion, an anti-dote to the psychological-ly damaging inhibitions of a repressed era, and, as such, their wholesome characterization of the

emotional nutritiousness of sex has begun to smack of purism, orthodoxy and self-righteousness, the dogmatism of the fanatic, the true believer.

The definition of how erotica differs from pornography is at best imprecise, and Heim's selection of stories will only add to the confusion. The distinction lies not so much in actual differences not so much in actual differences in approach and subject matter, between filthy-minded jack-off material and the new, more high-brow, thinking-man's pornography, but in something much

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more subjective and intangible: in the writer's attitude towards himself and his unshakable belief in the value and enduring literary quality of his work. The eroticist is simply the pornographer experiencing an identity crisis, the catalogue copy writer wanting to be Shakespeare, the commercial artist convinced that he is Picasso, artist convinced that he is Picasso, the slumming MFA getting uppi-ty, brandishing in our faces his creative writing thesis and Mas-ter's degree, suffering from delusions of grandeur about what is

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actuality straightforward smut. Erotica is not a real literary genre; it is a state of mind, the product not of divine afflatus, but literary anxiety. It is the nervous response of the insecure pornogra-pher engaged in a des-perate act of self-rehabilitation, attempting to be something he isn't, an artiste, a craftsman, a soartiste, a craftsman, a sophisticated belletrist and not just a potboiling drudge who churns out unreadable fantasies about varsity wrestling teams and truck-stop glory holes for Honcho and Mandate. Although both Heim and Ford express qualified admiration for conventional pornography, their anthology testifies to the snobbery that underlies erotica, the nervousness of writers so

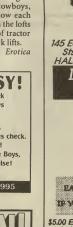
ica, the nervousness of writers so uncomfortable with their very subject, sex, that they have devised a special literary subgenre that cuts the umbilical cord with the illiterate drivel of pulp paper-backs and thus enables them to maintain their self-respect as creative artists.

Daniel Harris writes for Harper's, Salmagundi and The Los Angeles Times.

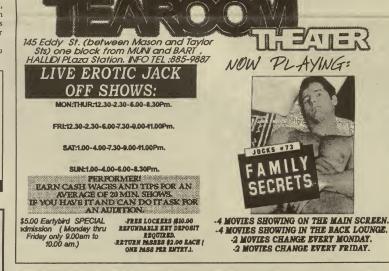


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All about boys

by Deborah Peifer

The Girls Next Door: Into the Heart of Lesbian America by Lindsy Van Gelder and Pamela Robin Brandt; Simon & Schuster, \$23

y dear Aunt LaVerne, faced with the wildly inap-propriate sub-title of this wretched book, would no doubt have said: "Into the heart of lesbian America," my ass sucks tomato juice!" I have no idea what it means either. I only know it was her favorite expression of outrage, and outrage is the mildest of my re-sponses to Lindsy Van Gelder and Pamela Robin Brandt's infuriating new tome, The Girls Next Door.

I've been trying to imagine the appropriate audience for this book. It certainly isn't a scientific one, for the book is far too flippant and haphazard to be taken seriously. The authors' repeated references to the generic "study after study," which, ostensibly, form the basis for the book's conclusions, are never identified, and, worse yet,

index. And since The-Girls Next Door isn't the least bit funny or clever, it loses in the entertainclever, it loses in the entertain-ment category as well. The the-sis, if I may apply so technical a term to so slipshod a piece of writing, appears to be that les-bians are just like everybody else, in that they define them-selves in terms of their rela-tionships to and seem to tionships to, and seem to spend almost all of their time thinking about, men. Even GelderBrandt's reworking of the Kinsey Scale ties more closely to where the boys are (or aren't) than where the women fig-ure in a lesbian's life.

I suppose that might be of in-terest to straight men, who as-sume that's what we do anyway (important tip — we don't!). If I were a straight woman, I guess I were a straight wolfial, it guess in might resign myself to the cen-trality of the phallus, since ac-cording to GelderBrandt, who say they are lesbians, even lesbians are hopelessly devoted to dick, Imagine my surprise to learn that, as a lesbian, I'm supposed to be a



practicing phallocentric. Hmmm.

But there is so much more about this book that enrages. Consider the title, with its reference to lesbians as girls. That ties in nicely to that Freudian notion that homosexuals of both genders are merely immature in their sexuality. And lest you think you are reading assimilation into the title, don't worry. It's really there. Gelder-Brandt tells us: "Our title reflects the reality that lesbians can be the reality that lesbians can be found in any town, any office, any family. Unfortunately, it's precisely the normality of the typical lesbian next door that's most threatening to some of those who hate us." Is it just me, or is GelderBrandt trying to distance herself from those

(bad, icky) atypical lesbians?

The two-speaking-as-one-style is annoying, although occasionally (and inadvertently) hilarious, for instance when GelderBrandt responds to the conundrum of lesbians who sleep with men (here they go again): "'This is about labeling sexual behavior, not limiting othing sextaal overalvot, not mining it, we second. 'No one here's saying anyone can't sleep with who [sic] she wants. And no one's saying anyone's required to label herself. — or, if she does choose to label herself...'" blah blah blah. Now, I want to know, did Gelder lead the recitation, did Brandt, or have they

been together so long that they just naturally speak in unison? But what about content? GelderBrandt decided to look at three "large-scale tribal events that serve as windows into lesbian that serve as windows into lesbian political, cultural, and social life": the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, the Dinah Shore Golf Tournament weekend in Palm Springs, and a cross-country ac-tion/road trip with the Lesbian Avengers. But GelderBrandt does-Avengers. But GelderBrandt does-n't report on these experiences, she trashes them. She damns with faint praise a party at Dinah Shore by suggesting that it had "the class of the last twenty years' most glamorous gay male parties." Wow, cool, we're almost as good as gay men. The Avengers are treated as a grotesque joke, con-cerned more with choice of outfit cerned more with choice of outfit than political action. I seriously doubt that any woman would want to go to Michigan after read-ing GelderBrandt's description. Now let's get real here. I'm not saying anyone has to like golf or festivals or avengers, but why

choose those three events to "jour-ney to the heart of lesbian America" if you hate every one of them? If I were paranoid, I might think that trashing lesbians is one sure way to get a mainstream house to publish my book. Since I'm not paranoid, I do think trashing lesbians was at the heart of this journey. After all, GelderBrandt does make the con-Geteen rainti toes make the Conflicting claim that lesbians are just like everybody else, and, sub-textually, that a lesbian is the last thing anyone would ever want to be. My hope is that no one buys this nasty, dyke-bashing, boring book. ▼

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Out There

◄ page **35**

Ultimate Guide to Lesbian & Gay Film and Video, available in June from Serpent's Tail (\$25).

from Serpent's Tail (\$25).
Olson's provocative and exhaustive book presents an overview of the last 20 years of queer film and video production, shedding light on hard-to-find information on queer films and where to find them, their resolvers. them, their makers and much more. There's even a list of homo film fests around the world and a guideline on how to put together your own film festival.

One of the book's most inter-

esting features is the "top ten survey," a list of most-respected pics compiled by some of today's hottest homo filmmakers and critics. There are some surprising revelations here. Who'd have thought that **Gus Van Sant**, who thought that Gus Van Sant, who makes visceral pics with vivid human characters, holds Stanley Kuhrick's cerebral, paradigm-driven films — in particular A Clockwork Orange — in such high esteem? Or that porn queen Bruce LaBruce, who lists Jerry Lewis as an influence cite Anto-Lewis as an influence, cites Antonioni's La Notte and Ingmar Bergman's Persona among the films he most admires?

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Jenni Olson

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PERFORMANCE

Bearing fruit

EA survivor Tim Miller returns to the stage at Josie's June 6-16 with Fruit Cocktail, a humorous exploration of how people "manage to bear fruit." Miller's metaphor takes him from a hilarious opening monologue about first sex (to Handel's Messiah) to a hallucinatory trip across the space-time continuum and beyond. Miller's latest, says the performer, is a journey into "discovering how our experiences, adventures, and boyfriends can keep a feeling—or a fruit—growing inside us."

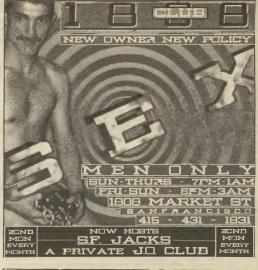
An internationally acclaimed performer, Miller is an NEA survivor, writer and performer. His solo theater works have been presented throughout North America, Europe, and Australia. In 1989, he co-founded Highways Performance Space, where he is currently Artistic Director. Fruit Cocktail runs Thursday-Sunday, June 6-9, Wednessen, Space, where he

runs Thursday-Sunday, June 6-9, Wednes-day-Sunday, June 12-16 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12. Josie's is at 3583 16th St. Call 861-7933 for tickets and info. ▼

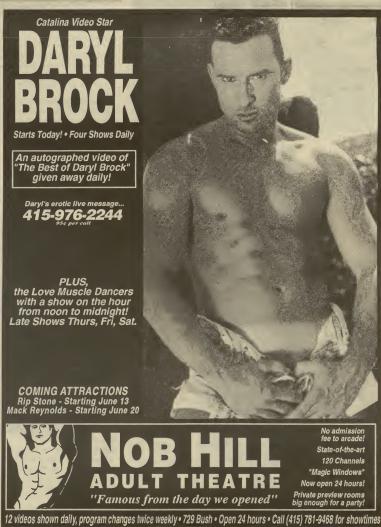












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SM Players Shoots can be scheduled on short notice.



IML'96 part II and other stuff

by Mister Marcus

here's a lot to be said about the IML '96 weekend, and it's all good. After last week's edition, it turned out many other people had bad experiences with the Congress Hotel staff, but enough of that. There was the notorious tea-room on the first floor just off the registration desk where Don "Ho"

registration desk where Don "Ho" Tse tried to pull rank as the Queen of the 38 Geary (but it didn't work). There was former Mr. San Diego Leather Taurus Webster III and the heat building up between him and IML and Mr. Drummer Luke Daniel. The only thing lacking at the mammoth Leather Fair was a Divorce Lawyer booth. R.J. Chaffin will be consulted! Honey, they could have made a fortune. they could have made a fortune, or did you miss that nasty spat between those two hot dudes from Lansing, Michigan, who all but slaughtered each other right in the lobby!?

the lobby!?

Besides the main purpose of the whole weekend, selecting IML '96, there were parties galore, the most notable being the Maple Leaf Party by Canadians from all over that country. New York's party was a benefit for AmFAR and drew a big crowd as well.

big crowd as well.
The San Francisco Bay Area party, which was absolutely free and included food, was deemed (as always) the best of the lot, thanks to numerous generous individuals, businesses and bar owners. IML delegates were frantically trying to get an invitation. The whole thing was videotaped, but will the general public ever get to see it? Time will

The Chicago Hellfire Club cel-ebrated its 25th anniversary at the Chicago Eagle on Friday night, May 24, with a big turnout of the faithful and the curious. The Cell Block got its share of the action, including a special event by *The* Leather Journal on Saturday night. Dave Rhodes held court with his staff, but I ran into my first-ever lover there and he had my attention most of the evening.



John Edwards won the November '97 spot on the Eagle's Bare Chest Calendar last Thursday, May 23. The final spot, Mr. December, gets chosen tonight, Thursday, June 6.



1996 Intl. Ms. Deaf Leather Cool Cat of Chicago (left) poses with San Francisco's Daniel Sonnenfeld, who won the Intl. Mr. Deaf Leather title in Chicago on Thursday, May 23.

Oh, there were many more parties, but space limitations preclude listing them all. The Home-Town party for outgoing IML Larry Everett at The Vortex by Dustin Logan of Omaha and Frank Nowicki of Washington,

D.C., was one of the best yet. It was a great pro-duction, and everyone came away highly satis-fied and amused.

As for the reports that surfaced here from an unreliable and unnamed source about IML second runner-

up Antonio Sanchez of Madrid being nellie and not knowing any-thing about leather – that's pure bullshit! As judge emeritus, I sat in on the pre-judging and talked to many of the contestants. Mr. Sanchez is anything but nellie!

IML '96 Joe Gallagher will be in San Francisco for the Intl. Mr. Drummer/Folsom Street Fair weekend in September, and you'll get to meet him. Runner-up Mark Norton (not *Morten*) will be here as well, and of course, Antonio Sanchez will be competing for Intl. Mr. Drummer. Nellie? No,

A different drum

With IML '96 completed, the title watch now shifts to International Mr. Drummer, being held tional Mr. Drummer, being neid here on Saturday, Sept. 28, as a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Already, the first regional winner, Don Woods of Houston, Mr. Gulf Coast Drummer 1996, has been chosen; the competition heats up starting next week. The schedule thus far is as follows:

Weekend, June 14-16: Mr.



The SF Bay Area party in Chicago was a smash success. L to R: Daddy Irwin Kane, Frank Nowicki and George Carreras gave IML Larry Everett (horizontal) a grope massage during the festivities.

The reasons for his not winning the IML '96 title are as varied as they were for any of the other contestants who didn't win - or even make the cut for that matter! It is very unwise to believe items about anything unless the re-porter/disher was actually there! As I stated in last week's issue,

this year's 49 contestants all have this year's 49 contestants all have track records of community service and fundraising; that, coupled with their knowledge about all things leather, compounded the difficulty for the judges in choosing the best man for the job. Yes, IML '88 "Iron' Mike Pereyra or his wife all right — a winger. got his wish all right – a winner that makes your dick hard. But this year's winner, Joe Gallagher, has intelligence, good attitude, compassion and he cares, making it all that more satisfying when you're talking leather titledom.

Southeast Drummer will be cho-sen in Atlanta during Atlanta's Leather Pride Week, Rico Ware will step aside and sash his succes-Sor on Sunday afternoon, June 16. The night before that, Intl. Master and Slave Jack Stice and boy Tom

and Slave Jack Stice and boy 10m Stice will sash their successor(s). The next weekend: Mr. Desert/Plains Drummer '96 will be chosen in Omaha on Saturday, June 22. Sponsor Dustin Logan has a half-dozen contestants al-ready, all vying to step into Jim

Gau's snoes.

Sunday night, June 23: As a finale to Leather Pride Week in New York City, Mr. Northeast Drummer will be chosen. Sponsor Wally Wallace is very enthused about the contestants who will try to fill Adam Colt's boots for this

year. Weekend, July 12-14: Mr.

LEATHER SCENE

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, June 6

Last spot on the 1997 Bare Chest Calendar is up for grabs. Mr. December 1997 will be chosen beginning at 2200. Also Knights of Malta \$5 beer bust, 2100-2400.

bust, 2100-2400.
Free HIV anonymous testing at 933 Harrison (upstairs) by Stop AIDS Project and Brad of Blow Buddies. Use this service!
Carolene Marks, wife off Sen. "Uncle" Mittle, is running for the SF Board of Supervisors. There's a benefit for her campaign at Delancey St. (600 Embarcadero), 1730-1930. She's got my vote, and I hope she's got yours! Call 441-7156 for more Info.

Weekend, June 7-9

The SF GDIs' "Sunset Boulevard" weekend run for \$100. Grab Pushy Phyllis or one of the club

Friday, June 7

Meet Mr. Cut & Mr. Uncut '96 at the Studs BBS free party at Lavender Lounge (1042 Folsom) from 1930 to 2200.

Dyke Daddy Koko is having a women's play party at Castlebar to raise travel fund money for whoever wins the Ms. Golden Gate Leather contest, being held on Wed., June 13.

Saturday, June 8

Cal Eagles MC's one-day ride to back roads of

the East Bay leaves from Daddy's Bar at 1000.
Bring a full tank of gas and \$\$ for lunch and gas. Catl 267-0560 for details.
Healing Alternatives Foundation beer bust at the Lone Star from 1500 to 1900 for \$6. Raffle tickets for great prizes for \$1.
Alameda Co. Leather Corps Rub-a-Dub "In the Navy" beer bust at Lake Chabot (Castro Valley) Mallard picnic area, with a \$5 barbecue and rowboat races. Call (510) 537-5428 for info.
Leather Pride Float beer bust at Daddy's, 1400-1800, for \$6. The winner of the float's design contest will be announced.

sign contest will be announced.

Sunday, June 9

Proceeds from the Mr. SF Leather contest (over \$4000!) will be presented to the AIDS Emergency Fund by the Mr. SF Leather Committee during the G/L Historical Society beer bust at the Eagle — 1600-1900, \$8, food, fun galore!

Wednesday, June 12

Wet Wednesday at 933 Harrison. Doors open 1000-1100. Also Boot Party in the back bar at Daddy's, 2100-2400.

Thursday, June 13

Ms. Golden Gate Leather will be chosen tonight at the Eagle, 2000, to send a contestant to IMs. L next month. Free! Men are welcome and encouraged to attend and support this effort.

Mid-Atlantic Drummer Ed Ryder will sash his successor at the Baltimore Eagle - sponsored by Allen

Grim. Weekend, Aug. 2-4: Ed Ivey sponsors the Mr. Florida Drummer contest in Fort Lauderdale. Ray Castro vacates the title (are you reading this, Daddy Irwin Kane?).

Saturday, Aug. 10: Mr. Northern California Drummer '96 will be chosen in San Jose. Omar Moseley will pass his sash to his

Saturday, Sept. 7: Mr. New England Drummer '96 gets cho-sen at the Boston Ramrod.

No dates yet for Mr. Southern California Drummer and Mr. Rocky Mountain Drummer, but stay tuned. Drummer is on the march.

On the home front

They chose Mr. Sacramento Drummer Boy last Saturday night, June 1, at the Wreck Room. Some 300 people passed through the doors to raise almost \$1000 for DTF and Avalon House. The winner was Bill Whiting, who beat out two other contestants. Unfortunately, the two gay Sacramento papers refused advertising

for and coverage of the event!? Is that any way to treat the leather community?

Omar Moseley participated in one of the fantasies; he was "obliged" to spank a contestant and took obvious delight in his task. Graylin Thornton said he enjoyed the banana splits they had avail-able at the event. That's a new twist! Mr. Whiting will compete for Intl. Drummer Boy here in September.

Over \$1400 was raised for the joint (SF-Eagle/Daddy's) Leather Pride Float at the Eagle on Saturday night as the giant license plates that were on the float last year were auctioned off, along with dinner dates with Mr. SF Eagle Joe Piazza and Mr. SF Leather Gary Virginia. A spirited crowd helped Daddy Irwin Kane in his auctioning efforts, and everyone seemed to be having a great time. Nick Veratakis would

have been pleased.

And last Sunday, the ICF beer bust was a sellout, what with the great weather and lots of bare skin. Eduardo Curial, manager of Amsterdam's hottest leather bar, Club Argos, was visiting and try-ing to defend himself from the Eduardo is a married man and seldom, if ever, cheats on his hot other half! (It says here in fine,

Dot dot dot dish

Well, it seems like one of our ocal gay firemen has captured the eye of a certain Chicago celebrity, long noted for his good taste in men of color. The fact that said fireman is part of the Don "Ho" Tse Tong, only adds to the intrigue for our Chicago brother.

And even more mystifying: George Carreras is from the Sacramento area and has mes-merized dudes from coast to coast, so it's somewhat ironic that his current "torrid" trysts happen to be with a man who also hails from Sacramento, a leather maker whose former lover was also named George. Hey, this one is an
"E" ticket ride!
Frank Nowicki of Washington,

D.C., who emceed IML this year, did such a terrific job that he has been asked to return to Chicago next year for the same gig. Do you suppose we could get him here to emcee the Mr. Drummer finals? Are you reading this, Audrey Joseph? AEF? Intl. Mr. Drummer

taste of (THE TRADING POST) SAN FRANCISCO'S ORIGINAL LEATHER & EROTICA EMPORIUM SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1967 ARM BANDS LEATHERMAN'S HANDBOOK SLAVE COLLARS PENIS WHIPS BARDEX LUBRICANTS HANDCUFFS SUSPENSION HARNESSES BELTS Snake Bite Kits Leather Pants Herbal Ecstacy WHIPS ENEMA EQUIPMENT HOODS HERBAL ECSTACY LEASHES VACUUM PUMPS MAGAZINES S MAGAZINES LEATHER CHAPS LEATHER CHAPS LEATHER BASEBALL CAPS ROLLING PAPERS RAISED DECALS YS ETHYL GAS WRIST RESTRAINTS LEG SPREADERS ORIGINAL BROWN BOTTLE TIT CLAMPS LEATHER KILTS AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!! JSTOM LEATHER WORK HOODS HARNESSES RIDING CROPS BEAR SIZE SLINGS MOTORCYLE JACKETS WATER PIPES LEG CUFFS LANAL BALLS LEATHER SHORTS COCK & BALL TOYS LEATHERER SLOVES CATHETERS SOUNDS BUTT PLUGS VIDEOS PADDLES ADDLES WE DO CUSTOM LEATHER WORK DEE LIVE DEMONSTRATION OF OUR VACUUM PUMPS UPSTAIRS AT MACK THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTHII OPEN DAILY NOON-SPM 317-A 10TH STREET (415) 252-9168





Hawaiian high jinks

by Sweet Lips

on't forget that the Prince of Aloha, Kimo (AKA "Sweet Leilani"), will be celebrating his birthday on Saturday, June 8, at 8 p.m. at Kimo's Pent-house Showroom, with continuous entertainment and a sumptu-ous buffet by Dennis "Pesto and Pine Nuts" Tyler. Marlena will

emcee.

The always easy-on-the-eyes Little Kurt is now on the plank at 301 Turk Club, formerly the Kokpit, on Friday, Saturday and

Kokpit, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, 6 p.m.-2 a.m., so do drop by and join him for a libation or two. You won't regret it.

The Front Lyne book and video store at 1259 Polk Street (at Bush) has some very lovely videos that I'm sure my readers would find educational (I've certainly learned a lot), and the service is always superb when Steve's gracalways superb when Steve's grac-

Montana, I had a letter from Todd, and he wants you to write to him. He says he still loves you, as do I, darling, and the rest of

On Sunday, June 23, at 3:30 p.m., the Second Bus Tour Marathon will kick off at the Joe Sent Me Club, and then it's on to Charpe's,

the Castro, The Blue Muse and The Gate, among other wa tering hore.
The dynamic

Chuck Largent is organizing this fundraiser for Camp Minnow Lake for disadvantaged children. The \$100 ticket includes tons of hors d'oeuvres, a dessert buffet, 11 house drinks, four 30-minute musical reviews and other goodies. Contact Chuck for more information. Marlow, you certainly looked

delectable last Tuesday night

pouring drinks at Uncle Bert's.
Good enough to eat.
That fountain of youth, Dolly
Dale, is back from Alabama today,
June 6, and will be on the plank at
the Polk Rendezvous

on Monday. And as someone once said, "It's nice to have you back where you belong. It's still early yet, but mark your calendar in red for Emperor Steve Rascher's 50th birthday

bash, coming to

the Giraffe on Monday, August 26, 5:30-8 p.m. The sure-to-be-swell soiree is a fundraiser for the Tijuana AIDS Foundation.

Cocktail Hour

And yes, in answer to all your fervent queries, I am back at work at Kimo's, Wednesday-Saturday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. So drop by for a stiff one on your way to work.



Libe affair

ow that the heralded New Main SF Public Library has been open over a month, time for a few re-

flections from a heavy user: When I went to get my new library card, the computer remembered I hadn't paid some overdue fines when I left town for Oregon back in '90! Les-son: You can run, but you can't hide. I've been popping in during lunch-

I've been popping in during lunch-hour. In the evening, there are lines at check-out, and huge piles of returned books behind the counter. It's good to see the libe so well-used. Even the ma-terials left behind on the reading ta-bles—History of Russia, Refresher Cal-culus, Blanchot/Foucault— are the leavings of browsing minds.

The Internet terminals are always

The Internet terminals are always occupied, despite their 20-minute time

limit. It's easy enough to look up a book on the terminals, but hard to locate the appropriate stacks.

The gay and lesbian center is squeaky clean, like the complexions of the Gap models in the mural above. It's exciting and necessary to see a gay center in a public facility, but I also have that faint pang of regret you get when any radical movement gets insti-tutionalized. Seeing books I grew up

tutionalized. Seeing books I grew up with behind glass in display cases is unsettling: we queer and gentle people aren't entirely history yet. Out of the display cases and into the stacks!

On 8th 5t. I heard one flygirl tell another, "You can watch new movies at the liberry! An' it's free!" The Audio/Visual Center also has an odd collection of CDs— a somewhat limited range, but I was able to find John Adams, Bud Powell, and "Blue" Gene Tyranny.

Tyranny.

The soaring atrium floods natural light into the space, but doesn't muffle the noise, which is considerable for a library. If you need peace and quiet, go to the paging desk and request a study

Until this Sunday you can visit "Building the Library," an exhibit on the lower level documenting the history of Civic Center and the construc-tion of the New Main, which truly is a gift we SF residents gave ourselves.

New Main hours: M 10-6, T/W/Th 9-8, F 11-5, Sat 9-5, Sun 12-5. Info: 557-4400.



The Angel, the

The Angel, the Vixen...
"The Eunuch and the Clown," a dragsploitation carnival: Fennel Skellyman, Roderick McFarland, Trauma Flintstone and Steven LeMay. Thru 6/8, call for times. \$6-10. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia. 863-1234.

Billy Valentine White trash roots music, solo acoustic shows. Fri. thru June at 8pm. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Haves, 864-7654.

Change Partners VII Ballet MIND-dance presents benefit perfor-mance for Pro-ject Open Hand. \$10. 8pm. The-ater Artaud, 450

Florida. 621-7797. Disputed Territory

Performances that Performances that challenge gender identity. Fri.-Sun. at 8pm thru 6/23 (6/16&23 for women only). \$8-12. Luna Sea Women's Performance Project, 2940 16th St., #216C. 863-2989.

From Top to Bottom New a cappella group: five gay men, incl. Aurelio Font, formerly of the Flirtations. 6/7&14 at 10pm. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Goodtime Charley

Goodtime Charley
42nd St. Moon presents 'lost'
1975 musical, the story of
Joan of Arc and the Dauphin
of France. Wed.-Sun. thru
6/23, call for times. \$18.
Tonight at 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness.
861-8972.

Hillbillies on the Moon Musical comedy by Leigh Crow, Kelly Kittell and Annie

Toone: gender identity, space travel and rock 'n' roll. Wed.-Sun. thru 6/8, call for times. \$12-18. Tonight at 8pm. The-atre Rhino, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

The Lair

Sister Roma hosts, DJ Jamie J. \$7. 8pm-4am. V/sf, 278 11th St. 621-1530.

Lesbian/Gay **Comedy Night**

Karen Ripley, Danny
Williams, Suzy Berger, benefit for Gay Prom '96. \$15-25.
7:30pm. Campus Ministry
Ctr., 25580 Campus, Hayward. (510) 785-7142.

Pterodactyls

Nicky Silver's play: a Main Line family faces their own extinction. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 6/29. \$16-18. Actors Theatre of SF, 533 Sutter. 296-9179.

Ric Isensee Reading from "Love Between Men," free. 7pm. Crown Books, 5723 Christie, Emeryville. (510) 653-4992.

STUDS

Meet 1996 Mr. Cut and Mr. Uncut at awards party sponsored by STUDS computer bulletin board, free. 7:30pm.

Lavender Lounge, 1042 Folsom, 495-1811.



Frank DiPalermo's

show Public Transit, Private Parts opens

Thursday at Theatre Rhinoceros. Details in the listing.

multi-character one-man

Gay by the Bay:

"A History of Queer Culture in the SF Bay Area." Susan Stryker and Jim Van Buskirk discuss their new book, free. 7:30pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

Gay Comedy Night Scott Silverman, Karla Car-mony, Breck VandenBerghe

\$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933. Imagination

Conference

Contreence Interactive event brings to-gether artists and futurists: multimedia presentations by Brian Eno, Spike Lee, and Laurie Anderson. \$45. (\$75 includes reception following.) 7pm. Civic Auditorium, 99 Grove. 438-5165.

Lavender Seniors

Group for gays & lesbians over 55 holds potluck. 1pm. San Leandro Comm. Church, 1395 Bancroft, San Leandro. (510) 247-2406.

NakedMan

SF Gay Men's Chorus presents world premiere of oratorio, music by Robert Seeley, libretto by Philip Littel!, also, Stravinsky's "Dedipus Rex." \$10-50. 8pm. Davies Symphony Hall, 864-6000.

Sexy Shorts

Sexy Storts
Short plays by lesbian and
gay authors. Gay men's program begins tonight. Thurs.
at 8pm, Sat. at 8&10pm thru
6/29. [See Wed. for lesbians'
program.] \$12-16. New Conservatory Theater, 25 Van
Ness 861,8972 Ness. 861-8972

Tuffy Eldridge

12-string guitarist and song-writer presents new work, "The House of Halls and Mir-rors." \$5-10. 8:30pm. Jon

Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Watsonville

Warsonville
World premiere of Cherríe
Moraga's play about Mexican women, workers,
believers and survivors.
Wed.-Sun. at 8pm thru
6/30. \$14-16. Brava
Theater Center, 2789
24h S t 487-5401 Theater Center, 278 24th St. 487-5401.

sun

Family Values

Pam Walton shows her new film about growing up the daughter of a fundamentalist right-wing father, free. 2pm. PFLAG/SF, St. Francis Lutheran, 152 Church. 921-8850.

Gay & Lesbian

Sierrans Outing to see the new African Warthogs, Porky & Bess, at the SF Zoo. \$7. Noon. Meet at North entrance, Sloat at 45th Ave. 386-5691.

Lovism

Ramsey McPhillips, art world voyeur, mixes photos, love let-ters, restraining orders and more to explore love gone bad. Fri.-Sun. thru 6/9. Victoria Room, 180 6th St. 255-0364.

Dr. Mel White

Former speechwriter to Robertson and Falwell preaches at 11am service, shows video at 1pm. MCC/SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

Pride Without Borders Sonoma County Lesbian, Gay Pride Parade begins 11am, marches down Mendocino to Santa Rosa Jr. College, site of celebration.

Nationwide demo, locally or-ganized by "Whorezine" edi-tor Vic St. Blaise, supporting civil rights of sex workers. Noon. City Hall.

Timothy Liu

Reading from "Burnt Offering," free. 3:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

on

Expanding Visions

Sculptures and paintings by Swiss artist Roberto Lauro. Mon.-Sat. thru 7/22. Eleonore Austerer Gallery, 540 Sutter. 986-2244. Gay Comedy

Open Mike

MC Suzy Berger, aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

ICU

Photography exhibit, collabo-ration between Mr. David and Kent Taylor, thru June. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Jacob Collins

Realist painter exhibits fig-ures, florals, still lifes. Mon.-Sat. thru 7/6. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post. 441-1138.

Nino Rota Orchestra

Performing music composed by Nino Rota for Fellini films. Monday nights. \$3. 9pm. Bruno's, 2389 Mission. 550-7455

Provocateur de Foto..

"A sensual adventure," exhibit of nude photography by Chuck Stevens. Thru 7/13. Stormy Leather, 1158 Howard. 626-1672.

B. Rexx Gray

"Mamar's Boys Cruise Daddy's Girls (at the trailer park)," local artist's exhibi-tion. Cat's Grill, 1190 Fol-som. 431-3332.

Bernd and Hilla

Becher Photo documentation of in-dustrial structures that be-come "found sculpture." Thru 6/29. Fraenkel Gallery and Daniel Weinberg Gallery, 49 Geary. 981-2661.

Brazilian Rainbow Party

Gay dance party every Tues-day. \$5. Bahia Cabana, 1600 Market, 861-4202.

Darlene Weide

Photographs of gender play, S/M, body modification and safer sex. Opening tonight, 6pm. Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia.

Fabergé in America

Exhibition of 400 objects created by legendary Russian jeweler, thru 7/28. \$9.50. deYoung Museum, Golden Gate Park. 750-3614.

Movable Feast

SF Camerawork's inaugural exhibition in its new space near Yerba Buena, free.
Tues.-Sat. thru 6/15. 115
Natoma. 764-1001.

Museum of the Future fan Pollock and Janet Silk's virtual exhibition based on contemporary telephone tech-nology, free, 24 hours daily thru 7/1. 522-0605.

Pergamon:

"The Telephos Frieze from the Great Altar" exhibition, thru 9/8. \$7. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th & Clement. 863-3330.

A Shoe Show:

"Footnotes to Contemporary Culture," benefit exhibition of fantasy footwear by fashion designers and artists, thru 6/29. Capp St. Project, 525 2nd St. 495-7101.

Skin Deep

Skin Deep Nudes by 30 Bay Area artists, incl. Michael V. Moretti, Roberto Montoya Mejia, Johnny Davis, Biron. Tues.-Sat. thru 6/14. ARTwork Gallery, 1837 Divisadero. 673-3080.

Starfucker

Trip hop spun by DJs Boy, Corbin, Everett, go-go dancers. Free before 10pm, \$3 after. Casanova's Lounge, 527 Valencia. 864-1665.

Tranny-Shack

Pippy Lovestocking and Hek-lina present the drag queen and crossdresser's club and cabaret, every Tues. \$2. 10pm-2am. Stud, 339 9th St. 863-6623.

Trouble in Paradise

"No Bikini Atoll," paintings on surfboards by Kevin An-cell, "Tires and Fires," paint-ings by Michael Knowlton, thru 6/30. Catharine Clark Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

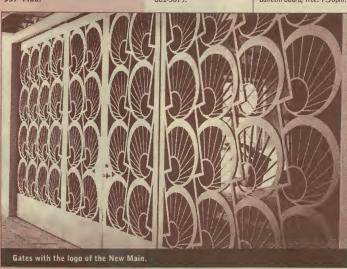
Undocumented Passages

Site-specific installation ex-amining lives immigrants leave behind. Tues.-Sat. thru 6/15. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Witness to the Self

"Testigo del Ser," first U.S. solo exhibition by Nahum B. Zenil, thru 7/1. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-0445.

Women with Balls



How best to advertise "Sexy Shorts" at the New Conservatory Theatre? Photos of guys (Martin Hyland and friend) playing peek-a-boo in each other's panties, of course. Men's Program is listed for Saturday, Women's Program is listed for Wednesday.



Mimi = Freed. \$5. Tuesdays at 8pm. Cat's Grill, 1190

Fruit Cocktail

Thru nd , 49

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439

hru

Tim Miller's exploration of how humans manage to bear fruit. Wed.-Sun. thru 6/16. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583

16th St. 861-7933

He Who Gets Slapped Drama by Chekhov contemporary Leonid Andreyev, set in a dingy European circus. Wed.-Sat. thru 6/15 at 8pm. S8-12. Multi Ethnic Theatre, Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro. 550-8161.

Kielbasia; Queen of Poland



Roots and Fatty Foods" writ-Matthew Morin. Weds. thru June. Sliding scale. 8:30pm. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-1441.

Monte Tamaro Chapel Exhibition of collaboration between architect Mario Botta and painter Enzo Cuc-chi. Wed.-Sun. thru 8/4. Museo ItaloAmericano, Bldg. C, Fort Mason. 788-7142.

Secrets

Photography by Merry Alpern, Andrea Modica, Sage Sohier, Bureau of Inverse Technology. Thru 8/4. \$4. Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

Sexy Shorts

Sexy Shorts
Short plays by lesbian and gay authors. Lesbians' program runs Wed, at 8pm, Fri. at 8&10pm hru 6/28. [See Sat. for gay men's program.] \$12-16. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 V an Ness. 861-8972.

Waiting at the Water's Edge

Lucinda Coxon's play: a coal miner's daughter's rise to power. Wed.-Sun. thru 6/30, call for times. \$18-24. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

Boxing Club

Bay Area Boxing Club offers free boxing lessons, Thurs. at 8pm thru June. For info, call 585-2365

Group show exploring gender in mixed media visual art, thru June. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St., #216C. 863-2989.

Dining Out For Life Over 100 SF restaurants do-nate portion of tonight's bill to benefit Visual Aid. For fax of participating restaurants, call 1-800-903-5242.

Evelyn C. White

Author, journalist, biographer of Alice Walker, discusses her identity as a black lesbian. Free. 7:30pm. South Branch Library, 1901 Russell, Berke-ley. (510) 644-6100.

Flesh Flash

Exhibition of homoerotic paintings and drawings by Rick Herold. Thurs.-Sat. thru June. Naked Art Gallery, 355 Bryant, #110. 284-0567.

Glenn Ligon

New work: struggles of cultural and sexual identity. Thru 8/25. \$7. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Otras Manos

Duets on living well with AIDS, choreographed by Ar-turo Fernandez, performed by Left Coast Dance. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm. \$13-15. Theater Ar-taud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

Out, Loud & Proud

Group show by gay, lesbian, bi and trans artists, benefits CUAV. Thru 6/30. Bridge Gallery, 689 Bryant. 267-1866.

Party
David Dillon's play: 7 gay
men play truth-or-dare. Wed.Sun. thru 7/28, call for times.
\$20-25. Tonight at 8pm.
Cable Car Theatre, 430
Mason. 956-8497.

Peter H. Duesberg

Controversial author of "Inventing the AIDS Virus" reads, free. 7:30pm. Diesel, 5433 College, Oakland. (510) 653-9965.

Public Transit, Private Parts

Frank DiPalermo metamor-phasizes from a Brooklyn tough guy to a Jewish lesbian in his one-man show. Thurs.-Sat, at 8:30pm, Sun. at 7:30pm thru 6/23, \$10-15. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Something About Us

Andrew Alty's erotic play about friendship, love, and loss. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 6/29. \$12. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Sparrow 13 Laughingwand

Reads from "Hell Soup," free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Threads

Performance and mixed media installation by Leslie Bauer, opens tonight, 7:30pm. Thurs.-Sat. thru 7/6. Collision, 417 14th St. 431-4074.

Tom Jones

Henry Fielding's comic mas-terpiece, adapted for the stage by Peter Jeffries. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 7/14. \$15-22. 450 Geary Studio Theatre.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Roberto Friedman Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

This Week's Dinner Specials Grilled Fresh Salmon on a bed of

garlic mashed potatoes, vegetables and lemon-dill sauce...........9.75 Grilled thick-cut Pork Chops with Thai-spice peanut sauce chef's rice or mashed potatoes.....9.50 Penne Pasta with Chicken and Rock Seafood Fettucini Alfredo with salmon, snapper and baby clams, creamy parmesan sauce..... PRIME RIB with baked potato and creamy horseradish.....9.95

Join us for dinner in our heated tropical garden atmosphere

Patio Cafe
531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th
Breakfast/Lunch served from 8:00 AM
Dinner from 5:00 PM nightly









.844.22

Only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!

PARTING GLANCES

Randy At Pasqua Coffee Shop You are blonde w/crew cut & were dressed in shorts & T-shirt w/racket sticking out of black back pack, talk ing w/guy w/small dog. You smile melted my heart & stiffened me all over. Pls call. 12 1101.

Pacbell Man - Taylor St. 5/9
Fax line works great but we missed
the fun. Come back & check out the
line & we'll make up for lost time. 102.

John, Raleigh, Midnight Sun Meirose night-5/6-we spoke but I did-n't get your number. You walked me over to Detour-Dan from Washing-ton! Call me-Keep in touch. 122 1103.

Mike With A Jeep
We've played several times near the
windmills. I'm Jeff-I drive the maroot
Toyota pick-up. I lost your numberplease call. I think you're hot. 120
1104.

Blow Buddies, Friday May 10 Actually after midnight. You: muscu-lar, impressive chest, powerful arms. Me: black leather vest, trim build, considerably older, thinning hair. We played. You left club shortly after we finished. \$\mathbb{\text{2}}\$ 1105.

Sat 5/4 Met in Bookstore in
Berkeley. We went into room w/olde
male. Let's meet again. You drove
floral del. truck, blnd bushy hair. Yo
smiled at me from truck, I'm guy in
glasses. \$\mathbb{2}\$ 1106.

Saw U In Church I saw u w/long hair, May 12, at St. Peters Catholic Church. Italian Mass. I'd like to meet you. 2 1109.

Pasqua 18th St. Sun PM 5/12
You had a tape of smoke. I had been cycling. You asked if I was enjoying the sunshine. Yes & your smile, your blue eyes dancing. Give me a call.

1107

Rosies Cantina Sat 5/11 9:30 PM You: handsome WM w/2 friends, glasses, shorts. Me: AM, blue/green collared jacket/jeans. We exchanged stares, sat next table wfriend. Would like to meet you! 22 1108.

Mark: Palomarin Trail 5/2 Thursday, 8 PM. We flirted. We smiled. Let's talk. Call № 1150.

Bid Brian Frm Denver/Livermore
We met mid-March in the Castro, the
words that came from your face were
beautiful, as are you! I gave you my
number, & a quarter. You left me
spellbound, please call me. 1152.

Gotcha Geary/Gough 5/16 7:30AM You: Asian, shorts, 227, 5'10", crossed Geary with me. Me: black leather jacket, 23, would have fol-lowed you but I had strep. Can we try it again? 22 1201

Embarcadero YMCA 5/16 7PM Saw you there for the 4th time & again you took my breath away! Yo GWM, blue sweat pants & white tank. Me: GAM who would love to spoil you some time! 1202,

Calvin-Topless Diva Where R U?
The Box 5/16. We danced for an houbut your date whisked you away after dance floor mini-drama. Want to create a solo scene with you. Let's rendez-vous. K. 21203.

Phoenix 5/17 Fri. 12:30-1:30AM
You: dark-blue cap, khaki pants. Me:
Asian, black jeans, tight shirt, short
sleeve jacket by the counter. Call me,
I wanna talk. 2 1207.

5/16 Castro Hibachi
You: blue T-shirt, bearded. reading
BAR. Me: having lunch w/Mom. Our
eyes met, we exchanged smiles, you
melted my heart. Would love to meet
if you are interested.

1204.

Princeton Guy At Spinelli 5/18
We (you & this red-headed ex-Trojan)
got off to a good start, but the morring's agenda intervened before we
could exchange contact info. Let's fix
that! Please call! @ 1205.

Lafavette Park 5/19 Afternoon Larayette Park 5/19 Affernoon
We exchanged intense glances sunbathing at Lafayette park 5/19. You:
Latin (?), hunk, pierced r/nipple,
w/friend; Me: muscular, wearing
striped Speedo. Let's exchange more
than glances. 2

Hot Man With Chaps
Saw you on Divisadero bus. Too shy
to say hello. Saw you same afternoor
at Van Ness subway. You held door
open. We said hello. Call you'll win
prize. 2 1301.

Watergarden Sat May 25th
To the beautiful Latin man: I want to
continue making love with you. Meet
you in the showers. 22 1302.

Flood Cute Stud On Muni 5/22
You: navy pants, nice shirt, boarded
Montgomery Muni; off at Castro. Me:
tall, buzz cut blond, jeans, striped
shirt. We parted in front of Rolo—I
smiled. Pls call me.

1303.

Apple Scat Dumpling!
Pink pants from NC wants to return
your chocolate sweater. Viva Sevilla!

1364.

Headline's John
Wanted to tell you that you are a very attractive man. Love your face, smile, hair, voice, and the way you talk. I wish you were mine. 1205.

Relocated From Champaign III.
Friday May 24, Cafe Stelline on
Gough, You dined alone. We spoke
briefly. Exchanged glances & smiles.
Would like to know you & show you
the beautiful sights. Call me.
1306.

BIOCMST At Home Depot 5/25 We passed in the parking lot several times, 10:45 AM. You in white beemer, me in red rental. Maybe you liked the camouflage jumpsuit or beard. Let's compare hardware. 22 1307.

Native Cal. Joe Vs Baltimore Joe Had to leave town-work emergency-never did get together w/you. Great meeting you at gym-wanted to see how you got those "things" on your neck. Call me Joe.

1304.

Kaiser Dermatology
Met in waiting room 5/23 @ 11:30
AM. You: leather boy in boots who
waited for me, pony tail guy. Buzz
me. № 1363.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

The Want Ads
Applications: closed. Extraordinary
individuals, exceptional circumstances considered under dire penalty
of perjury. 1-on-1 Interview after
screening. 27 yo, 5°11", handsome
transplant. Unacceptable: S&M,
boys, antiques, incomplete submittals.

1111.

Big Bear Wants Lovin'
I'm 31 yo, 6', 270#, short blond
beard, short blond hair. I enjoy going
out to dinner, movies, & chatting over
coffee. Looking for friends or more
(any race). 1112

Seeking Soul Mate GWM, attractive, early 30's, clean-cut, blk/br, 5'8'', 165#, enjoys work-ing out, outdoor activities, travel, ro-mantic eve. Seeks GWM, 30-40, ath-letic, attractive, sense of humor for friendship/LTR. **29** 1113

Motorcycle Rides On Route One Massage, theater, ballet, nude beaches, equal my favorite things. Youthful, mature, Lail, slender, GWM ISO slender to muscular (no fat) any race, youthful wismillar interests & more. Shorter +.

Queen Of Hearts ISO King Eurasian, 6'1", 255#, intelligent, ro-mantic, heartful, loving, attractive, exotic, well-read, Buddhist, sincere, simple. You be: honest, a good man, 25-40, GWM, looks unimportant, heart is. Jokers need not reply.

1115.

I Give Up
You find someone when you quit looking. This is my "quit looking' ad.
Ne: 6', 210#, BB, handsome,
40++, beard, HIV+, funny, masc.
You: husky bear, gdlking, masculine,
honest, fun. № 1116.

Like Older Men GWM, 43 yo, HIV-, 175#, inter. in MTG GAM/GOM, 45+, for friendship & more. Physical appearance not im-portant. № 1117.

Wanted
Blonde, GWM, 18-35, to prove the old saying, "Blondes have more fun."

■ 1118.

Seattle GBM Sking Bttm Husband Quality, GBM, 6', 230#, 37, is tired of the rain & waking up alone. I seek a HIV-, NS, homeowner, w/piano in Bay area to marry me. Let's talk. 1219.

East Bay Senior GWM, active, masculine, drk hair w/salt, 5°9", 160#, solid 44" chest, 33" waist, HIV+, hm owner, enjoys gardening, biking, movies, beach. Looking for younger in shape, GWM. № 1120.

Attractive, Adventurous GWM 32, 5'10", 168#, br/br, romantic, down to earth, athletic, fun loving, seeks adventurous, down to earth, romantic, GLM/GBM for friendship/LTR. 22 1121.

Friendship & Fun
Prof. GWM, 5'11", 160#, cln shv,
very oral, great sense of humor, seek
masc, trim, 18-40, yo GWM. Enjoy
camping, travel & more. Let's enjoy
the summer. 22 1122.

Ni Sa Bula! Fefe Hake? 01a White, young 26, cute, tone, empa-thetic yet brutally honest & back from the Peace Corps. I wish to meet a young, muscular, intelligent & charming, non-white man for possible relationship.

1123.

Wanted: Asian Top Gdlkng, healthy, GWM, 34m 6'1", 160#, seeks similar Asian top (21-34) for fun & perhaps more. Serious replies only.

1218.

Sensual, Lovable, Humorous Spent 5 yrs in Hawaii-love's the water-did theater w/Bett Midler-do I have stories. Hndsm, healthy, 48 yo, wants intelligent, hot, healthy, mas-culine man. 12 1124.

Body Of David But no attitude. GWM, NS/ND, HIV-, 6'2", 36, 165#, 9% body fat, blond/blue, MBA, professional; enjoys theater, art, camping, rafiting, biking, ISO similar, masculine man (30-40), who believes love & monogamy.

40 Something
Handsome, Italian Dad type, 5'10",
185#, wants good buddy in his 40's
for poss. LTR. I'm in good shape, active, good wit, great sex, uncut &
very healthy. Tell me about you,
healthy HIV + OK. Hairy & oral a +.

126.

If You Want To Be Masturbated GAM, 5'8", 140#, well educated seeks men obsessed w/J0. Expected: NS/ND, clean, kind, h/wt prop. Preferred: exhibitionist, shaved, not hard, vacuum pumped, cockrings.

1127.

Exceptional Man Wanted GWM, 47, 5'9", 160#, medium build, HIV-, blue eyes, brown hair (sparse on top), attractive, professional, Jewish (you don't have to be), warmhearted, easy-going, seeking man of similar quality & age.

Straight Acting GLM Seeks LTR Seeking a GWM around my age or older interested in a possible LTR w/a 40 yo GLM, 6′, 165#. Prefer non-professional type not into gay scene. No Republicans or workaholics.

1153.

Imaginative Sadistic Trainer
Seeks hard-bodied or muscular submissive only into erotic guidance
along path of pleasure/pain. Me: W,
42, 5'9", 173#, strong med. build.
Serious. No drugs.
1209.

Pretty Boy Seeks Man
I'm tall, slim & gdlkng hoping to
meet a guy who's white, 30ish, handsome & safe. If you're interested then
leave a message. 22 1210.

Intimacy Is Me
Warm hearted, highly affectionate
GBM, 40ish, 6', muscular seeks 4050ish, affectionate, kissable man.
Race unimportant: sexual chemistry,
good heartedness & ability to be
warm & intimate is. Hairy A+.
1211.

Potato King ISO Rice King 4 friendship possible LTR. Me: 5'5", 140#, HIV+, 21yo, Filipino, love cars, very affectionate, funny, maybe cute? Many interests. You: under 45, honest, sincere, secure & reere, secure & reere, secure & reer, secure & reery whatever happens! № 1212.

Wanted: Friend, Companion??? HIV+, GWM, 36, 125#, East Contra Costa area. Seeking other HIV+ who enjoy life at its best, but can handle life when it's a bitch. Let's get together to talk. ☎ 1213.

Shy Guy Needs Love GHM (looks white) brn/blu, 5'10", slim, sweet, caring, hopeless roman-tic, looking for GAM, under 30, for friendship & more. Weight & height must be proportionate. 1214.

Bearcat Seeks Hissing Panther Cat w/bear tendencies. GWM, 38, bru/gm, 185#, attractive-not buffe Dangerously intelligent. No precon-ceptions. Likes hairy bears & cats w/mustaches. Call now! \$2 1215.

Seeking HIV+ Guys
Prefer Latins or Whites, 21-35, for friendship possibly more. I'm 5'7", 170#, 25, muscular, Latin, some facial hair, dark features, smooth body, student. 22 1216.

Bright Eyes Seeking Asian Love GWM seeks slim, clean shaven Asiai for companionship LTR. I'm nice looking, brn/hzl, kind loving, caring, patient, honest, sincere & seek some one w/similar qualities. 12 1217.

Don't Miss This Opportunity! Don't Miss This Opportunity!
For you to meet a nice, responsible, friendly, caring, GWM, 31yo, wlots of personality, 5'8'', 1804 %, for an innocent cup of coffee? I would like to meet a GM, Black, White, Latino close to my stats. No bars, furus, Location not important. 12 1219.

Well Endowed BLKM Seeks Same Well Endowed BLKM Seeks Same 56'6', 175#, new in the Bay area. Looking for other BM friends & more withat special discrete man. If your looking for a good man for a LTR or lasting friendship & is attractive, fit, HIV-, let's talk, give me a call. 1220.

Visual Artist Seeks Companion
Artist for collaborations in & out of
bed. Me: 42, 5'9", 173#, strong
med. build. You: hard-bodied or muscular, bright, imaginative, adventuresome, loving. 1319.

Erotic Gods & Pioneers
Sex, love, spirituality, polyfidelity, Intimacy, surrender, brotherhod, cration. GWM, 50, 59", 170#, bearded, fit, HIV-, WTM, versatile & energetic men who are following similar paths.

1315.

Lived In SF 1 Yr. Fun But... For something more meaningful, You too? 36, GWM, short, sincere, prof. creative, serious seeks young, ener-getic, funny, smart, romantic, real partner to play, love, share, explore. HIV-, ND.

1222.

Asian Romantic Asian Romantic
Sought by romantic vintage Italian
male for friendship, romantic Interludes. Travel companion to France,
Italy, Spain, Hawaii, Mexico. Be sincere & lovable. 22 1223.

Athletic, Romantic Professional Relationship oriented, handsome, GWM, 45, 5'8', 150\(^*\), halfry, beard, HIV-, NS, versatile; enjoy exercise, travel, sports, cooking, romance, seeking a special, GWM, 30's'40's, to cuddle, feel & be romanced. Polo to leather.

2 1224.

Busy Gay Guy
Fun Aslan guy seeks possible relationship w/a serious guy between 2540yo. You must be interested in fun,
dinner & movies. Not into bar scene.
Serious only! 225.

So Fine
Physically active & fit Asian, 48, 5'9", 150#, seeks similar clean-shaven, lean or muscular guys into workouts, sports, camping, cultural arts, ethnic foods, travel, & fun activities.

1226.

You: HIV+, Lt Blond Hair A+!! Hair lost, no problem, nice proport Hair lost, no problem, nice proportio lean or thin built, under 40 a must. Me: Black, 160#, 5'10'', extremely shy, seeking a sensitive, caring, out going, soul mate. Into outdoor activities. 22 1227.

Passionate Yet Romantic Mid 40's, GWM looking for that man who wants to make slow passionate love, watch each other in candlelight, cuddle on the couch, hold hands. A man who dances, does movies or just hangs out. I'll bring the champagne, you bring the flowers. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 1308.

Expert Cocksucker
Senior GWM, 5'7", 130#, begs to
worship masc, verbal, topman. Only,
over 40, wgt proportion, Cauc or
Asian. 12 1309.

GAM Wanted For friendship, quiet times, romance, by this 28 yo, 5'11", 210#, GWM, HIV-, professional M SF. Sense of humor, easy going, kind heart re-quired.

1310.

Travel Buddy
GWM, straight looking, professional,
adventurous, easy going, enjoys living
the good life, looking for the same to
share international, domestic travel
expenses. 2 1311.

Platonic Gdlkng Slim Retired Guy Mustache, crewcut, hip, 5'9", 150#, HIV-, seeks similar guy, nonsexual. Interests: music, opera, politics, sci-ence, etc. Smoke & Bars OK. SF. № 1312.

Wanted: Husband/Lover/Friend North Bay GWM, 41, brn/blue, 160#. I'm passive & shy but very af-fectionate & a romantic. Looking for that special someone (35-45) to share life with. S 1313.

GWM Relationship Guy Available 46 yo, fit, HIV-, vers. to bottom, seeks LTR. I'm affectionate & caring—the real thing. Any race, 18 to 53. ☎ 1316.

Relationship Coupon Book
No expirations or limits on positive
attitudes, smiles, hand holding, cuddiling, walks, talks w/a bonus coupon
for kissing. By healthy, stocky, 30's,
HIV+, 5'6", hairy, GWM—smile. 19
1317.

Summer Romance
Big & tall GWM, 38, seeks partner
for summer romance & maybe more.
Weekends at Russian River, theater,
dining, movies, SF Giants, museums,
etc. 1318.

Peninsula-Boots & Bondage Relationship oriented GWM, 6', 190#, 50, HIV-, mostly top, looking for HIV-, employed, 30-50 yo, under 6'. Let's date & explore mutual inter ests. \$\mathbb{2}\$ 1320.

CHP Motor Officer
Seeks same, seen cruising Castro,
SOMA areas or reasonable facsimile.
I want my own kind; cannot operate
within department. Leather & kneehigh boots a priority. I'm 6'+ w/appropriate equipment. No coloraturas,
please! 1321.

Husky Handsome Big Guy GWM, 43 yo, flat top, mustache, 6'3", 225#, seeks other big guys w/facial hair. Must have high snuggle tolerance-any age. 1222.

A Summer That Sizzles GWM, 27, 6', sexy body seeking at-tractive, masculine man, 29-35, in-terested in a hot romance w/a lot of provocative play. NS/ND, no heavy alcohol. № 1323.

Seek Mature Friend WM, 49, 6′, 180#, healthy, HIV+, professional, seeks bald(ing), hirst-teriend, 60+. Companionship first, all else negotiable.

1324.

The Man From God GBM, 35, looking for GWM, 30-35, who loves God & himself, and looks to enjoy life, not always being serious about life, NA, NS, & no head games 1325.

Black Man Dreds, Beard 160#, into mountains, music, hiking, massage, & gardening seeks friends. ND/NS/NA. @ 1221.

Under Thirty
Seeking youthful-looking, affectionate, easy-going, companion who
would appreciate a much older man
for LTR. All ethnic groups welcome.
I'm a caring, very trim, professional,
GWM.

31365.

LESBIAN

Butch Bottom Seeks Butch Top I've got chainmail, top leather chaps & cuffs, & collar. You GWF, 30-45, have chains & motorcycle in SFLGBT Pride '96 parade. Afterwards you de-cide, did I behave or not? 12 1326.

Champagne Bubble bath For Two Down-to-earth, very feminine, aggressive Lesbian seeks feminine companion, 30-40's, for good times, dating & more. Where are all of you? Please call—Let's talk... 2 1327.

SEEKING **ADVENTURE**

Insatiable Handball Bottom ISO greedy handball top, all night party, no holds barred. Good shape, attr., 99, 5'17', 165#, 32'32 levis, beard, tatts, brilliant deep throat, sling, serves any age, race, size, likes mind bending action, pig out scenes, top couples welcome. 40 + A + . № 1128.

Service-Oriented Bottom
I lick, kiss, rub, suck and... Tall,
gdlkng, fun guy seeks a few hung
(7.5+) men. A throat & ass for you
to explore. It's hot! 1129.

Asian Top Wanted
Slim, dark blond, blue eyes, 6'2", 41,
HIV-, bottom. Is looking for Asian top
of similar age or younger for safe,
clean encounters, possible more.
1130.

Is There A Real Man in The East Bay w/a deep throat or deep rear but no "SF attitude" (young, pretty, white boys only! SF attitude). 9" of manhood await you. \$\mathbb{2}\$ 1131.

Wanna Fight/Wrestle? Hairy bear, 49, 5'10", 175#, ISO gay Asian, Latin, Black studs for sweaty erotic rough house scenes. Sacto or Bay Area. Be hot & aggres-sive like me. 1132.

That Something Extra Inexperienced gay boy w/one thing on my mind. You. Are you beefy, built & gdlkng? GBM, oral, attractive, eager w/big gripable buns awaits you.

Massage Students Or Experienced Massage Students Or Experienced Masseurs wanted by athletic, hand-some, smooth skinned, friendly Asian. I enjoy receiving long, intense full body oil massages from my head to my toes on a regular basis. All calls returned. 1234.

Looking For A Sex Partner? Me 2. GWM, 25, 165#, 5'10", part Italian, very attractive & well-de-fined. Looking 4 sex partner, prefer Latino or Asian, 18-28, dark/hairless. U must be gdlkng, defined, open HIV- & non-anal. 2 1135.

Bottom Boy 36, 5'7", 140#, GWM seeking in shape, top, daddy into light bondage, spanking & hard dick to plow my tight butt.
☐ 1136.

Muscle Top Wanted
By attractive muscular bottom. Me:
GWM, 26, 5'8", blonde. We are both
HIV-. Looking for a sex buddy who
wants to have hot sex on a regular
basis.

1137.

Tired Of Being On Top
Attractive Italian stud in Castro, 42, 6', 190#, beard & goatee, tired of being on top. Mount me, plunge me & unload. Let me be your bottom in darkness. 12 138.

Strong, rugged, athletic brawny m seeks same for sports, companions dating & fun. No head games. No mal, genuine, beefy built men wan Only the strong survive. 1139.

Jack Off Men Hairy mouth for in shape men w/la hairy balls that really die havin' th nuts licked all over real good while jackin' off loads. Be butch, stash mandatory, hairy preferred. Expert head also available. 2 1140.

Have It His Way
Surrender control to this handsome,
Hawalian/Latin hunk, 35, w/smooth,
chiseled muscular body-love to pump
your face & butt. Get ifed up & used
enthusiastically? He will make you
cum helplessly. You: cute, trim or
muscular.

21238.

Friends & Goodtimes
WM, 25, 5'10', 195#, grt/brwn,
seeks buddies for fun & games. Interested in doing things & goling places,
such as; movies, zoos, museums,
such as; movies, zoos, museums,
such away bondage, SM, & slavery, Cigar smokers or tobacco chewers welcomed. ☎ 1141.

Ride Me Hard & Fast
Just shut up & ride!! WM, 30,
5'10", 200#, bl/bl, muscle hunk,
48" ch, 31", w, clean-cut, wants
gdlkng & very masculine men to top
me. Call anytime, even late night.
1142.

Daytime Sex Buddy
Me: 47, 6', 165#, in shape. You: in
shape, any age. Into: TT,
CBT/bondage, very oral, long JO.

1228.

Wanted: Older Deep Throat Dad You: GWM, 55+, hairy, husky, bearded cocksucker. Me: GWM, 47, 5'6'', 1049', balding/ponytail, full beard, ripe pits. We: great kissing, cudding, J0. Honest, intell. NS/ND. 1229.

1 Am Ready Older men like to be plowed too. I'm 54, 6'2", love WM to plow my man pussy. Cum plow me. EB. 2230.

Dominant Mature Dad/Master Seeks son/slave under 45 to serve as his own boy. Gay or bi-curious OK, since I will train. I'm 72, 5'8", 165#, & inhibited sexually. ♀ 1231.

Daytime Fun-Guaranteed GWM, 39, 6", 165#, gdlkng swim-mer seeks other slim & sexy HIV+ boys/men, 25-40, for afternoon sex. Like hot oral sessions, tiplay, mutu J0, rougher for right guy. ☎ 1232.

Service Man
Masculine muscular dick/cum pig, at
your service. Tell me what to do. VA,
stocky, hairy A+. 2234.

Thirsty 4 You
1, 2, or 3, cum to me; plug my
throat, flood my moat; bury it deep,
pleasure you will reap. All hung me
(7.5+) welcum. No recip nec.

1235.

Older Men Only
HIV-, 54, WM, very horny!! Wanna
try something new. Never had BD,
BT, FF, SM, or other activity. I
would be willing to experience one or
more!! If you are patient & slow at
the beginning. Must be my place in
Marin. 32: 1236.

Serious Fuckers Only!

If you like hot juicy fucks w/a well
used ass, 1 on 1 or groups, cum fuck.
6BM, 38, 511", 142#, goatee,
shawed head, lkg for men ht/wt prop.
mass & serious only. This ass is ready
now. \$\mathbb{R}\$ 1237.

Passionate Oral Expert Loves serving athletic man animal action friendly forceful clean damage-free. Strong stamina, WM, 49, 5'7'', 165#, gym body. Shaved head, short beard, healthy, HIV+. Puts out. 22 1239...

Horny HIV+ Bottom GWM, 34, 5'9", 135#, looking for some hot tops who what to fill my as: & get into some good, old-fashioned fluid exchange. № 1240.

Great Touch
Treat your body to a new erotic experience. Let my fingers caress your entire body. Experience a new tingling sensation. Disease free & under 45.
Smooth +++ but not necessary. 1241.

I like a wide range of men. Be in shape, hung, or hot bottom. I'm ha some, 8 1/2" top & bottom. Let's fuck! David. 1329.

Stud Butt-Hole Licker
Muscular, athletic jock w/rimseat is looking for nasty studs who like to kick back & have their asshole, balls & cock worshipped by an eager, obedient, hot tongue. \$\mathbb{Q}\$1242.

Man Handle
Masculine, 5'10", buffed 175#, HIV,working man w/fat tool, balding,
beard seeking rugged man (hairy preferred) for mutual JO. Macho kissing
for real man. Black or white.

1243.

Cute Fat Blk For Young Wht Guy Gdlkng black Berkeley bisexual, 44, 6'1 1/2", 260#, chocolate brown skin, eyes, seeks muscular, hairy, or slim masculine white male under 35 to give oral service to. No reciprocation necessary.

1244.

Europe Travel Companion
Wanted Spring 97, Italy preferred.
GWM, 5'8", 130#, early retired.
Music, art, theater, movies, opera,
nude beach, Frisbee, walking, food,
sex, massage, reading, Good cook,
comfortable house. \$\alpha\$ 1245.

Fuck Buddy Wanted
Me: 40, 5'11", smooth swimmer
built, top, HIV-, European. You: cln
shvn, 30-42, bottom, ready for hot
adventures on the darkside. Please no
fat or fem. 22 1246.

A1 Oral Service Delivered
SF, GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, del
ers complete oral service to guys wi
dig getting sucked off. Prefer trim,
mature, no reciprocation. 22 1247

Hot Euro-Asian Encounters Athletic, very well hung European, 39, 5'10", 160#, seeks smooth, m cular Asian for great sex & maybe more. 1248.

GLM Seeks Affectionate Blond Affectionate GLM, 39, is attracted to blond & redheaded GMs who enjoy oral action & a lot of affection & kissing. Serious only please. Not into drugs, gay scene, games. 1258.

White Seeks Black Top East Bay Single, mature, educated GWM, hairy, handsome, HIV-, S/P, 185#, seeks mature Black top. Am willing to fulfill my fantasies fulfilling your. You are the Boss. 2 1259.

Bisexual?? M/F 25-70 Welcome WM, 51, bisexual, 5'11', 185#, seeks bi person for hiking, city walks, biking, etc. Will share cost for day trips to Santa Cruz/Russian River.

1328.

Slim Guy Seeking Bodybuilder I'm a gdlkng, in-shape, outgoing, pro fessional, GWM, 29, 5'10", 140#, w/dark brown hair & green eyes, looking for a smooth, muscular guy, any race, to hang out with. 22 1330.

Social & Oral Buddy
An average GWM, 30-55, w/cut tool for servicing & socializing wanted by average GWM, late 40's, HIV-, cut, S/P hair, non BB, smoker, cocktails. Let's start w/cocktails.

2331.

Bondage Made Easy
Easy going top looking for in-shape
men, 25-35, for bondage/light SM.
Inexperienced OK. Prefer 5'10" or
under. Safe, sane, sensual time by
GWM, 33, handsome, HIV-.

2322

Major Fantasy & Great Body Too 36, 5'9", 155#, great shape, attrac-tive, GAM, seeks a friend to explore SM, BD, in terms of sexual pleasure & exhibitionism. Let's talk first. 12

241 Or 2 Special
2 horny, gdlkng, fun, easygoing
blondes, mid-30's. Hung, uncut, top
& talented hungry bottom seek hung
playful guys, 20-45, for hot sessions
Let's party!! @ 1334.

Hung Top Needs Throat
WM, lean, 30 yo, 5'10", 135#,
8"+, masc, gdlkng, likes to fuck
throat. UB: WM, 21-35, gdlkng,
deep throat, mustache A+, hungry
for big loads. Castro area.

1335.

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 word

Filipino WS Top Wanted Work swing shift? Complete oral & rim chair service given by in shape HIV-, GWM, 45 yo. Thurs. & Fri. best. 12 1336.

Have Big Pecs & Great Nipples?
You: GWM, Bodybuilder, or hairy pecs & great nipples, like to have them worked, sucked, chewed, & licked. Me: GWM, 6'2", 195#, great mouth.

1337.

Grunge WM J0 Buddy Sought WM, top, HIV-, sperms on WM dudes (20's-30's) Into grunge-esp, showing their low-riding boxers. I'm 34, 5'10", 145#, stache/goatee, nice dick/nuts. Show me your crotch, dude! № 1338.

Oral Slave Available
For hairy dominant Master/Daddygdlkng, GWM, blo/olu-grn, 5'11",
165#, 35, into complete oral service,
BD, TT, BT, WS, other SM
activity/leather-not anal.

1339.

Afternoon Sex Buddy Wanted Me: attractive, GWM, 45, 6'5", 250#, football play's build, You: attractive, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth/moderate body hair & hungry butt. Sex-extended periods of ass play, spanking, love to screw.

Experienced Fisting Top Wanted 34, GWM, new to fisting, seeks experienced top fister to help. "Open me up." In-shape-you be too. 1341.

Wanted Models & Actors Cute aspiring Asian actor seeks mod-els & actors for fun & friendship. Let's study our craft together. Inter-ests in volleyball, hand ball, karaoke, comics, etc. Please be around 18-35. Thanks. \$\mathbb{2}\$ 1342.

Hunky Hairy Horny Muscle Bear Healthy, HIV+, leather muscle Bear, 5'8", 165#, bearded, hairy, cut, wants positive bottom man (hairy all-over), into working out & old-fash-ioned rough raw butt-fucking.

1343.

Help With My Fantasy
WM in search of bold & daring Asian
& Latino guys who would enjoy
watching my JO show & then having
you JO on my face. # 1344.

Foreskin Lover
48, GWM, loves long sessions
w/uncut dick. Any age, race, 7" or
better. Downtown, leave detailed
message. 22 1345.

Big Men GBM, 5'11", 235#, handsome, hung, seeks big, hefty, pleasantly fat men for sensual, romantic encoun-ters.
☐ 1346.

Pump Me Up & Piss On Me GWM, 29, 6'1", 165#, 8 1/2" cut. You are W/L, under 30, w/pump to teach me. Also 1st time WS. Let's party hard. Twins, brothers, groups A+. Cum 2 me.

■ 1347.

HIV+ GBM Seeks GWM Top Healthy 36 yo, 170#, 5'11", GBM seeks GWM, top. Tell me how you want it. 12 1348.

Do You Like It Smooth?
Shave me or shave you! GWM, 31, seeks bold hot men who like to play in the lather! The more we "take off" the more the fun! Safe & ready only!

№ 1349.

All man muscle Italian, 40's, extremely handsome & very in shape, stach/goatee & hairy. Ready to feed each other's hot mouth's for hot, long, intense, sweaty oral sessions. UB: younger, gdlkng, hot, in shape & healthy. Serious only. 22 1350.

UR Hot, Masc, Have Short Hair Stashed or not, height/weight propor-tion & dig raunchy, masty butt play, 69ing, rim, fuck, kiss. No tweak! HIV-, seeking LTR, but one timers 0K, Police, Firemen, guards A+. **1** 1351.

Look Good Enough To Eat? WM w/narrow same-sex interest seeks show stopper. Must be mascu-line, built, circumcised. WM, 22-27, who's capable of exhibition & desires an adventure in gentle objectification an advent 1367.

FETISHES

Discipline & Learning Proper English gentleman domin persons verbally, physically & se. ly. Please be lean & Ilterate. 1143.

Big Man Big Balls GWM, 50, 6', 230#. Also likes cock rings & glory holes. Call, leave your fantasy. 1144.

Flex Your Muscles
WM seeks muscular guys of any size
into pumping up, oil, mirrors, flexing
posing & being admired. Especially
like peaked, defined baseball biceps,
veins, hot pecs. 22 1145.

Play It Safe
Even the hottest guy in town is not
worth risking your life over. Always
play safe. Where a condom and nevexchange bodily fluids. SAFE.

Boy Toy Sought!
Top, 29, 5'10", 160#, gdlkng, 7"
uncut, is looking for obedient boys is service me. You are under 30, in shape, into light bondase, assplay, possibly fisting & maybe foot worship.

1146.

Force The Pig To Pig Out Gluttonous FFB, attr, 59, 5'11", 160#, short S&P hair & beard, tatts, 150 12 hr party w/powerful topfist who orchestrates hourly. VA, pig wal-low, butthole brainwash. Pig has BD sling. HIV+ OK. @ 1249.

Discipline
Retired former school master is available to provide corporal punishment.
Whip, strap, cane. Upper Haight gentlemen only. 1250.

Come On WM, cut w/nice clean feet. Get naked, relax & let a 50's, hot mouth, sizzling tounge make you feel soo-good. 1251.

Musclemen With Bubble Butts
Massage and/or spankings for hard
bodies. Treat those muscles to a re-laxing experience. Heat that flesh up
w/sensuous touch.

1252.

Shave Down!
Male cyclists-Do a "century" ride to
Petaluma (it's midway - about 52
mi.) get a body shave (all areas nego-tiable), lunch & shower. All free. Any
day. 22 1253.

Love Barefeet Love Barefeet
Sensual, muscular, gdlkng, guy into
mutual foot worship looking to meet
slim or muscular guys into same.
5'11", 160#, clean-shaven, smooth.
Not into rank feet. 1254.

Domestic Slave
Do you love to clean, take orders,
walk around naked, service a man?
Handsome Sir (42, tall, trim, white,
HIV-) seeks muscular bottom to train
as domestic Slave. Safely explore
sub/domination through ongoing
cleaning & discipline scenes. Be fit,
attractive, NS, 30°s, HIV-. № 1255.

Large White Guy Swallows Huge Cocks. Cut or cheeseless uncut. NS, 8" girth preferred. Wt/Ht proportion ate only. Redheads A+. 12" to 16" preferred. No reciprocation required. № 1352.

Latex Sex ...is safe sex. Wear a condom.

Our Barefeet Together
Aroused safe sexually/sensually looking at & fantasizing over men's
barefeet is this gdlking E. Bay GWM,
5'9", 140#, tan, bearded, HIV-,
w/lifelong excitement in reciprocal
kissing, licking, smelling barefeet.
1355.

Sadist Dad Wanted By masochist son, 33, 6', 190#, handsome, muscular, cleancut. Prefet dominant, white, muscular, together, handsome, blue collar dad.

2 1353.

Hungry Ass Eater Gdlkng, 30 yo, WM, dk hair, mus-tache, lean build, hungry mouth. UB: WM, under 32 yo, masculine, good build, healthy, ripe bubble butt, hairy A+. Afternoos or late nights. Castro area.

1354.

Attention Rimmers
Attractive GWM, facesitter, 41, bearded, tasty hole, loves to talk dirty to men w/hungry mouth & tongue.
Enthusiastic ass eaters wanted. Rim chair A+. 12 1356.

Ass Licker
If you're a hot, muscular, masculine
stud under 35 yo, this 48 yo Leather
man would like you to sit on my rim
chair. I'll eat your ass while we both
jack off. S 1357.

Ouch, Daddy! I'm Sorry!
Yeah, you'll be sorry! Stern Daddy
will spank lean young men good &
hard on your bare behind. You'll be
good & sorry when we're done. If you
deserve it, make the call. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 1368.

COUPLES

Cute Asians! GW & AM East bay couple, booth 43, looking for cute Asians of any age for fun, friendship, cuddling, good sex.
1147.

Handsome GWM Couple
Attractive couple 30's/40's looking
for handsome or cute young GM for
fun times, maybe more.

1256.

Seeking Couples/Groups/Singles GWM, 39, 5'11", 165#, HIV-, hairy, goatee, long hair available in SF/Palo Alto area June 5-9, very oral w/novice butthole. Other dates possi-ble. \$\mathbb{R}\$ 1257.

2 Are More Fun GWM, 39, stocky, 6'2", 275#, bl/bl, clean-cut, mostly top, looking to es-tablish ocasional relationship wista-ble SF couple, 30-40's, ht/wt prop, relaxed & fun. 1358.

Fun With Dick-Jane-Dick 6'5", 220#, trim, athletic, WM seeks fit, cute, 30's bi-male/whatever-female duo for unbridled, frisky sex. We're smart, funny, cigarette haters & a tad kinky. Don't be shy.

1359.

OTHER

Santa Cruz Beach & Boardwalk? Camaro Z-28? Summer Cruzin'? I want to meet you if you have car & want a bud. Prefer male 18-24. C-ya, lates, Ricky. 21148.

Body Positive
Wanna meet hot, healthy, HIV+,
gym boys that are single? We do
exist! If you wish to meet, date, romance, or just play w/o fear, call to
find out about this social.

1149.

Platonic Friend
I'm 38, HIV+ (9 years), asymptotic,
healthy, using diet-mind, & supplements & no pharmaceuticals. If
you're doing the same type of regimen & would like a cohort, please
call.

1360.

Strap Or Cane
Mature former schoolmaster provides formal corporal punishment on a conventional setting. 12 1361.

Investment Club For Gay Men Is forming-for learning & capital gains (hopefully!), friendship & fun. We'll be "The Beardstown Ladies" of Castro/Poli/SOMA, get NAIC-certified & follow its guidelines. 12 1362.

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SAFE

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MUSIC

Music, queer & other

Gay American Composers; CRI Records

t first, your eye is caught by a photograph of nubile, half-naked young men. But if you get beyond this CD's cover photo to the music you'll find there is more here than meets

the eye.

OUT Classics recently scoured the serious music pantheon of dead guys to bring together a selection of works by composers who either were gay, probably were gay, or who desperately wanted to be gay. There is no such ambivalence with CRI's Gay American Composers, which brings together the music of 11 living composers who are decidedly homosexual.

Aside from the fact that the contributors are all alive and gay, the assembled crew has little in common. This recording is akin to what used to be called a "sampler," a compilation of excerpts that a recording company would toss together to entice music lovers to buy the full recording. Here, the selections are both old and new, instrumental and vocal. They share an accessibility, a fealty to lyricism in the mainstream tradition of Western music, while at the same time nudging it along with late 20th-century sensibilities.

same time nudging it along with late 20th-century sensibilities.

I was particularly taken by selections from Lou Harrison's String Quartet Set. It unites the best of Northern California music in the septuagenarian composer and a superb performance by the Kronos Quartet. Equally remarkable are Chester Biscardi's sensibilities. suous Incitation to Desire: Tango and Robert Maggio's Desire

Movement.

Those who enjoy compositions for voice will find plenty to sample. Phyliss Bryn-Julson beautifully sings four of Ned Rorem's art songs and Conrad Cummings offers a charming duet, In the Department of Love. Chris DeBlasio and Lee Hoiby both turn to Walt Whitman for stirring songs of manly love.

A 24-page booklet allows ample room for discussion of the composers' works and lives. "I personally feel there is no artistic difference between 'gay' music (music written by gay composers) versus 'straight' music," offers composer Robert Helps. That thought is echoed by others in remarkably insightful notes on music, homosexuality, and the creative process.

Aurally and in print, Gay American Composers is an excellent primer to some of today's finest contemporary music, whose authors just happen to be gay and American. ▼

More than a drag show

by Robin Sweeney

he Angel, the Vixen the Eune Anget, the Vixen the Eu-nuch and the Clown is a drag show with several twists. The four performers — Fennel Skellyman, Roderick Mc-Farland, Steven LeMay and Trau-ma Flintstone — collaborate in such a high-spirited way that their work here is more than just silly fun, it's actually a meaningful re-flection on the role of gender in

Designed as a three-ring carnival, Angel is a 90-minute perforval, Angel is a 90-minute performance in three movements. The segments — "Paint by Gender," "Sirens=Dress" and "Smells like Queen Spirit" — establish the artists' public personae, throw into question what the audience projects on drag queens and, in the final and most successful of all the segments, allow the performers to discuss issues that drag queens face all the time.

The four performers are talented and entertaining. They do lipsync and live vocals, spoken word and video performances that in toto make satisfying theater. The individual lip-sync and live vocal performances — of which McFarland's amazing voice deserves special mention — and the middle segment, in which each performer does a different rendition of the Cole Porter song "I've Got You Under My Skin," are excellent.

Where The Angel, the Vixen, the Euruch and the Clown is different from, and more powerful The four performers are talent

ferent from, and more powerful than most drag shows, is in its



Clockwise from top, Steven LeMay, Trauma Flintstone, Fennel Skellyman and Roderick McFarland in *The Angel, the Vixen, the* Eunuch and the Clown.

final segment. Here, the performers — in individual pieces — discuss and reflect on what drag means to them. Anger, fear, joy and fantasies of being Jamie Lee Curtis intertwine to make the last half-hour one of the best pieces of performance I've seen in a long

The show isn't perfect, of course. Intersection for the Arts is a small house, and this piece needs more room. The sound levels were so off the night I saw it I flinched every time the sound sys-

tem came on. This is an unfortunate failing when a large part of the show is built around taped music. These minor caveats aside, Angel is a fascinating piece of theater. ▼

The Angel, the Vixen, the Eunuch and the Clown continues at the Intersection for the Arts (466 Valencia Street) through June 16. For information and tickets, call 863-1234.

Out There

◆ page 43

We were surprised, too, that **Prathibha Parmar**, the very serious woman behind *Warrior* Marks, a compelling and disturbing film about female circumci-

ing nim about remaie circumcision, ranks among her favorites

Almodovar's Women on the Verge
of a Nervous Breakdown and
Scorsese's Raging Bull.

Through-lines to these aesthetic conundrums do not easily suggest themselves, making the list all the more fascinating for being so free of political correctness and reductionist agenda-thwacking. Of course, not everything in the survey is revelatory. We weren't the least bit surprised to learn that Todd Verow, the man behind the Frisk debacle, is a fan of Alain Resnais' waterlogged rune Last r at Marienbad

Musical Magus

It was a typical San Francisco 'press conference" crowd that lurched into Ivy's Cafe on a recent Monday afternoon to hear lurched into Ivy's Cafe on a recent Monday afternoon to hear Michael Tilson Thomas discuss the SF Symphony's upcoming American Festival— a throng formed of the wet-behind-theears, the long-in-the-tooth, and the just plain worn out. Bounding into the room looking tan and fit in a radiant cerulean blue dress shirt, MTT was the odd man out in this MTT was the odd man out in this

otherwise enervated setting.

The questions asked of the conductor, which dribbled out between pregnant arrhythmic pauses and tentative stabs at green salads, indicated less interest in the conductor's all-home-grown music festival than in the maestro himself. "How do you feel about your first season with the orchesra?" one bug-eyed scribe in-quired, oblivious to the irrelevance her question had to the matter at hand. "What do you say to your critics?" another asked, expecting the improbably impolitic from a man whose professional success indicates mastery of the art of the

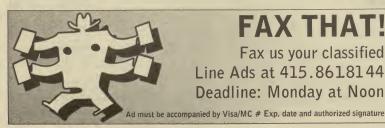
managed to turn these longueurs into gold, building out of nothing a provocative discussion about American music that wound down with an elegant appeal for people to seek in harmony the kind of religio-mystical suste-nance common to certain characters in the novels of **Hermann Hesse**. "All the wisdom of the world can be heard in music," he suggested. "We only need open ourselves to it."

Certainly anybody who's attended an MTT concert this season at Davies Hall knows what he son at Davies Hain knows what he is talking about. Even when the fare has been of the tergiversating variety (**Gustav Mahler's** thick Das klagende Lied), Tilson Thomas' concerts have brimmed with a kind of conviction and elec-tricity that lifts classical music out of the moldering bed of mothballs onto which it has been flung by onto which it has been flung by bores and academics into the sphere of the living, the realm of art as an expression of the human soul, with all that that entails in the way of ecstasy, chaos, irrationality, and, of course, bad reviews.

Tilson Thomas' revivifying act is catching on. In a recent chat with the SF Symphony's marketing department we learned that ticket sales are up 8 percent over

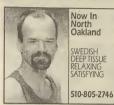
last year, and that 30 percent over last year, and that 30 percent of the Symphony's individual ticket buyers are new to the organiza-tion. As for the American Festival, it's selling well, in fact, twice as well, say the bean counters, as the annual (and increasingly turgid) Beethoven Festival it replaces this year. All this is good news for our new maestro, whose engaging presence and willingness to take chances are a breath of fresh air in our often provincial clime.





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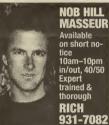


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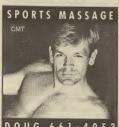
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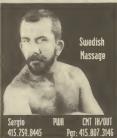
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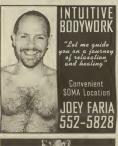
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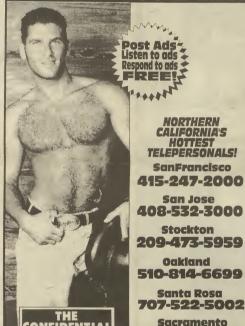


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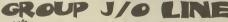
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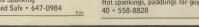
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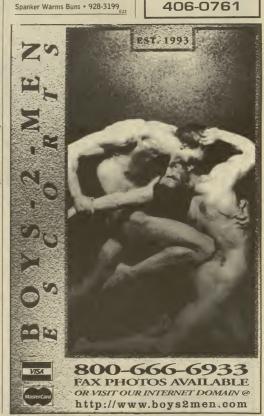
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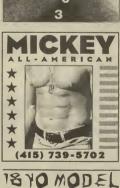
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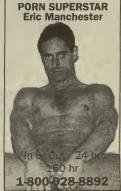
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